

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

Editorial and Executive Office: 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois

An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

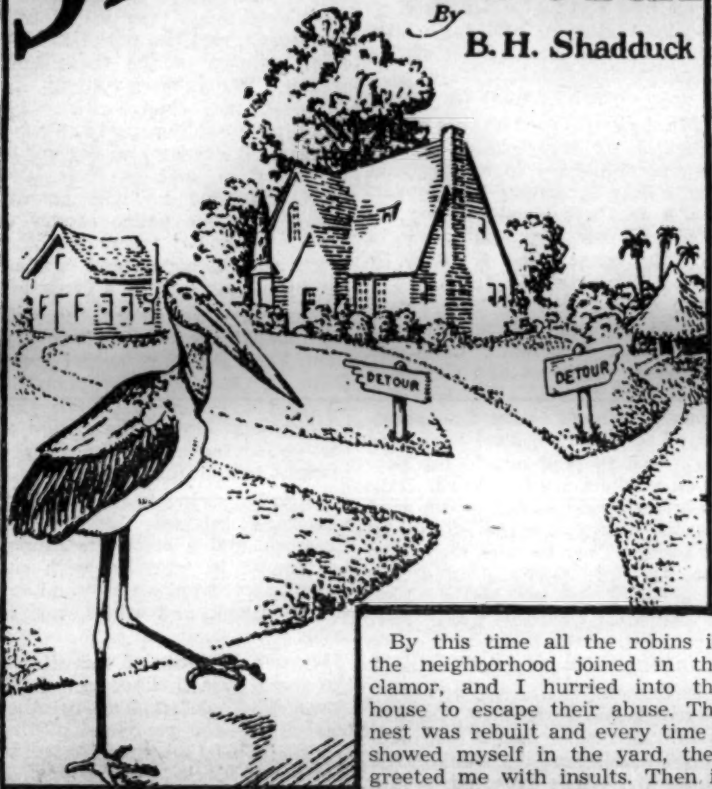
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## STOPPING THE STORK

By B. H. Shaddock



A Great Methodist Preacher and Evangelist Now in Heaven, With the Keenest Wit and the Most Delightful Lifting Prose You Ever Read, Speaks of the Blessing of Children and the Sin of "Birth Control."

### Just to Get Started Right

What does a man know about the problem of maternity?

He ought to know enough to be sympathetic and appreciative, but just to make sure, take a blue pencil and censor every statement that would not be true if the author were a grandmother.

Some years ago a mama robin began building a nest in the eaves trough of my house, and I tore up the half-built nest. She knew more about building a nest than I did, and the only time I ever sat on an egg, I was disappointed; but I knew more about rain water than she did. Mrs. Redbreast called me names that I hesitate to print. I reasoned with her in soothing tones, but she said, as I understood it, that I was meaner than a cat—a monster whose death was long overdue. Then I chided her, "You little feathered lump of baffled fury with a thimbleful of brains, I am doing you a kindness if you had sense enough to know it."



Dr. B. H. Shaddock

By this time all the robins in the neighborhood joined in the clamor, and I hurried into the house to escape their abuse. The nest was rebuilt and every time I showed myself in the yard, they greeted me with insults. Then it rained and I was sorry for them.

### Viewpoints change.

We outgrow viewpoints as a crab outgrows its shell. As a child, if a neighbor had offered me a baby or a kitten, I would have taken the kitten. Later in life, I wanted to be an Indian fighter or a circus performer. Now in my sunset years I can see that, barring cataclysmic events, the future of the church and the nation depends, more than ever before, on what groups of believers furnish the mothers. Our fathers relied on great public schools, great religious schools, great revivals, and a great need for frugality to keep up our ideals. Unscaring sinners has largely displaced the revivals.

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## Working With God is a MIRACLE BUSINESS

By Editor John R. Rice

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."—Jer. 33:3.

Christianity is a miracle religion. Let us face it frankly; Christianity is no better than Mohammedanism, or Buddhism, or any other form of heathen religion if it is not a miracle religion. Christ was conceived and miraculously born of a virgin, without a human father. He lived a unique, miraculous, sinless life. He healed the sick, opened blind eyes, cleansed lepers at a word, raised the dead! He multiplied loaves and fishes, stilled a storm, destroyed a fig tree with a curse, cast out devils. Jesus Christ miraculously died as our atoning Saviour on the cross, and was raised miraculously from the dead. Then He ascended in a wonderful miracle to Heaven.

The Bible is a miraculous Book, supernaturally inspired, a living miracle. Every time a soul is saved, a person regenerated by the power of God, it is a miracle. The indwelling of the Spirit of Christ

in every Christian is itself a miracle. The coming of Christ to raise the Christian dead, and take out His saints to meet Him in the air, will include millions of physical miracles in one second! Christianity is a miracle religion.

Thank God, I have seen miracles in revival. I have seen the drunkard made sober, permanently sober, his life, attitude, heart, supernaturally changed in a moment by the miracle of regeneration. I have seen homes and even communities transformed by miracles of God's grace. Make no bones about it: a revival, a pouring out of the supernatural power of God in a church or community is a miracle and results in many other miracles. It is not human, but divine; not natural, but supernatural; not ordinary, but extraordinary.

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## The Sure Word Of God

By Evangelist Harry McCormick Lintz, D.D.  
Redlands, California

"Give ye them to eat."—Mark 6:37.

"But the word of our God shall stand for ever."—Isa.

40:8,

In the story of the feeding of the five thousand, as told by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, we find the disciples coming to Jesus, after the long day in the desert place to which the multitude had followed Him, and asking that He send the people home. "Send them away," they said to Him, "it is almost night, this is a desert place and the people have nothing to eat; let them go into the country round about and into the villages and get themselves food." But Jesus answered, "They need not go away. Give ye them to eat." Then, as we all know, a little boy gave his small lunch to Jesus and with it Christ fed the multitude.

If we are to take our Lord's command, "Give ye them to eat," in a material sense, it certainly puts a grave responsibility upon us to feed the multitudes of the world who are starving. We cannot sidestep the fact that Jesus was speaking of physical needs first of all when He said, "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not unto me" (Matt. 25:45,40). But if we are to take the words, "Give ye them to eat," in a spiritual sense, which is just as great a requirement, we must see that Jesus is asking us to give His Word, "the bread of life," to the many who are without it.

In the whole history of the world there was never a time in which so many people were reading the Bible as today. A current magazine carries an interesting statement. Two years ago a letter from a soldier to his mother asking her to join him in reading a chapter from the New Testament every day was released by the American Bible Society. The result was a nation-wide Bible reading campaign in 1944 with passages selected by ministers and chaplains. Fourteen million book-marks listing the daily passages were used. The eager and wide-

spread response to this campaign overflowed national boundaries, and the next year (1945) it circled the globe. Thousands who have never read the Bible regularly, and many thousands who are learning to read it for the first time, are finding new faith and hope through this effort in which churches, business and labor organizations, social groups and the governors of more than thirty states of the Union are taking part.

So far, all well and good, and God be praised for what is being done. But as we say those words we cannot, we dare not blind our eyes to the effort which Satan is making and will continue to make to render this Bible reading as



Dr. Harry McCormick Lintz

ineffectual as possible. He will not tell people not to read God's Word. That would be poor psychology, and Satan is a master psychologist. He is entirely too smart to hinder the impulse of the multi-

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## These Events Must Occur!

By Rev. Donald K. Blackie, Pastor  
Hope Community Church, 344 West Florence Ave.,  
Los Angeles 3, California

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."—Heb. 9:27, 28.

In September, 1938, a man who lived on Long Island was able one day to satisfy a life-long ambition by purchasing for himself a very fine barometer. When the instrument arrived at his home he was extremely disappointed to find that the indicating needle appeared to be stuck, pointing to the sector marked "Hurricane." After the shaking the barometer vigorously several times, its new owner sat down and wrote a scorching letter to the store from which he had purchased the instrument, and on the following morning, on his way to his office in New York, he mailed the letter. That evening he returned to Long Island to find not only the barometer missing, but his house also. The barometer's needle had been right—there was a hurricane!

This incident suggests the similar folly of the many who refuse to take seriously the warnings of Holy Scripture. Does the Bible point to a judgment day, when the living and dead will stand before a holy God to render their account? Does the Word of God speak of a final separation between the righteous and the wicked, the saved and the lost? Does the same Book tell of a place of eternal and unending woe, the everlasting prison of the unconverted? Yes, there is no question but that the Bible teaches these things and warns men "to flee from the wrath to come." But, like the Long Island resident, there are many to whom such "hurricane warnings" are incredible. They will not accept the testimony of God's Holy Word. They prefer to act instead upon the conclusion of their own finite

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Rev. Donald K. Blackie



# Missionaries Waiting For Help

## \$1,765 Immediate Need in Free Literature Fund for Printing of Salvation Booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"

... \$600 for Korea  
... \$810 for Italy  
... \$155 for Holland  
... \$150 for Africa  
... \$ 50 for India

In the past few weeks we have been delighted to have come to us several new foreign editions of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" by Editor John R. Rice. At this writing, this salvation booklet is in the following languages (We list also the number of copies where they are known):

By Viola Walden  
Secretary to Dr. John R. Rice

Japanese . . . . .	2,584,000
Portuguese . . . . .	600,000
Korean . . . . .	100,000
Italian . . . . .	85,000
Tagalog (Philippines) . . . . .	?
Chinese . . . . .	250,000
Hausa (Africa) . . . . .	5,000
Dutch . . . . .	5,000
Kanarese (India) . . . . .	25,000
Tamil (India) . . . . .	85,000
Tranvancore (India) . . . . .	?
Gujarati (India) . . . . .	50,000
Hindi-Marathi (India) . . . . .	300,000
Telugu (India) . . . . .	100,000
Malayalam (India) . . . . .	10,000
English edition published in India . . . . .	50,000

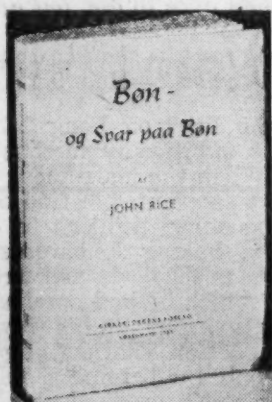
Total . . . . . 4,249,000  
(With 6,340,000 copies in English, many thousands in Spanish, this makes the remarkable total of 10½ million copies of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in print.)

Through our Free Literature Fund through the years, we have spent for these printings a total of \$34,072.62.

Now we introduce you to the new editions. Not all of them are of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" but we believe our readers will be interested; so we report on others here, too.

### 5,000 "Prayer: Asking and Receiving," in Danish

At the first of the year Mr. Christian Stokholm, an immigrant in his young manhood from Denmark, and now living in Illinois, visited Dr. Rice to ask permission for his large 328-page book, *Prayer—Asking and Receiving*, to be translated and published in the Danish language, in Denmark. This permission was granted and work begun. We are very proud of this first edition of 5,000 copies, finished in May, 1953. (See cut.)



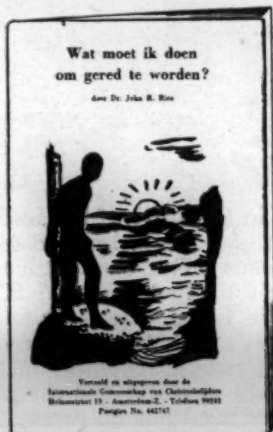
Now another request came in September asking permission to publish a second edition of 6,000 copies. Mr. Erick Plum, in charge of the work in Denmark, wrote September 18: "We are very happy to tell you that God has helped to distribute your book and the first edition of 5,000 copies is fast running out. It has been an inspiration and help to many Danish Christians. We must think of a new edition of say 6,000 copies and ask your permission to print same. . . ."

Of course permission was gladly granted. Dr. Rice did not ask royalty on either edition. It is printed and sold in Denmark at a very low cost, and we do not furnish money for these editions. How thankful we are to know that the book is being mightily used in Denmark. Mr. Plum states: "We sell our books practically at cost price, and whatsoever little profit we have left goes to missionary work in Denmark and

### Small Edition of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in Dutch

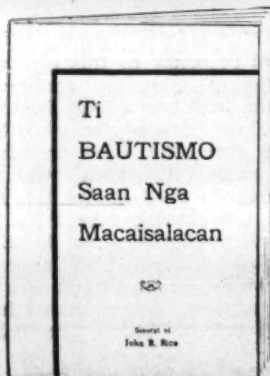
One of the neatest printings of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" has just arrived at our office. It is the Dutch edition. Black drawing on dark blue paper makes a lovely booklet of which we are proud.

First copy of the material in the booklet was printed in a monthly magazine in Holland, which brought great blessing, as reported by Mr. Albert Zijp of Amsterdam. Mr. Zijp further states in a letter July 8, "Now a



foreign fields." Those who have loved ones in the beloved Denmark who might desire a copy of *Prayer* in Danish, should get in touch with Mr. Erik Plum, Kirkeklokkens Expedition, St. Annaplad 26, Copenhagen, Denmark. Send \$1 direct to Denmark for a paperback-bound copy. We have only one copy in Wheaton, so please do not order from us.

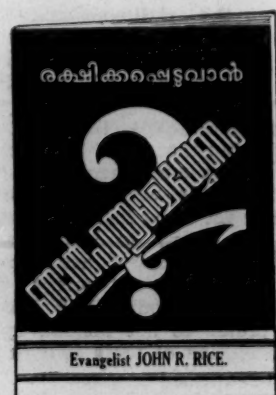
### "Bible Baptism" in Ilocano Dialect, Philippines



Though we were not asked to help financially in printing Dr. John R. Rice's booklet, *Bible Baptism*, in the Ilocano dialect, in the Philippine Islands, yet we are pleased to announce that it has been translated and a limited number printed there. Pictured is an Ilocano copy. I know our readers will pray for the work of the Christian and Missionary Alliance there, and Rev. R. E. Bressler, who dealt with us regarding the work.

### 10,000 "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" Printed in Malayalam Language, South India

Here you will find pictured a Malayalam edition of Dr. Rice's booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" Mr. N. C. Easo in South India had 10,000 copies printed for \$150.00. A good lady in the States, Mrs. L. L. Vann, sent Mr. Easo \$100 to be applied on this printing. He writes us that \$50 more is needed in order to get the balance from the printer. We are informed that some ten million people speak the Malayalam language—in Travancore, Cochin and Malabar. Though we have made no promise to help Mr. Easo, yet we would like to assist him in this venture of faith which he has undertaken in the name of the Lord. Perhaps someone will feel led to take care of the \$50 balance, and help Mr. Easo spread the booklet in Malayalam—so few booklets for ten million people! If so, send to us and we will see that the money gets to him. We will require a careful accounting from him.



girl out of the country who has been saved, and certainly had a great blessing from your booklet, sent me seventy guilders in order to print your 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' and publish it in a little booklet. Of course we cannot do much with seventy guilders, for this is less than 19 dollars; but this girl has given all she has, and even sold some of her little belongings for it. So we feel we have to do all we can to publish this plain and blessed Gospel message, and pray the Lord that He will make it possible.

"Now according to the circumstances in our country, we do have to print it very neat, on good paper, in nice cover, and just right format; otherwise the over-civilized, proud-hearted, worldly people of our country will throw it away without reading it. But that is not our goal. We want to reach them; we want to get them saved; you want to get them saved."

"Therefore, I asked the printer a new statement of price for five thousand copies, 28 pages, neat cover. Cost—583.00 or about 155 dollars."

And then he asks if Sword of the Lord Free Literature Fund can furnish this \$155 for the first printing of 5,000 copies.

We have not been able to answer yes to his appeal of July 8. This price is a little over 3c a copy, which is a fair price for such a lovely booklet.

A poor girl sold some of her belongings to help get it printed, and gave \$19 to help. Though Holland is not a heathen country, yet her people need the Gospel message, too, and we would like to help. But that will depend on the reaction of our good readers. We have no money laid by from which we can draw—it has to come out of your pocket. Of course the workers give. . . and give. . . and give, but the demand is so great EVERYWHERE that we cannot meet it without your financial help. Remember, if the money is designated for the Free Literature Fund, it is used just that way.

### \$1,765 Needed Now for Foreign Work

"Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters"—Isa. 32:20.

And that is what all who are helping spread the Gospel abroad are trying to do. Pray for guidance as to what you should do as you read of the immediate need here.

### \$600 FOR KOREA

August 6, Rev. William R. Garfield, of the Evangelical Alliance Mission, Tokyo, reported on the first edition of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in Korea. Then he appealed:

"Come the fall, there are several large-scale evangelistic pushes planned for this country. . . We

really must make an impression on this land for God at this time. Today is the day of salvation here in Korea. In line with this, would you feel free before God to help us in getting out a new printing of your tract? For another six hundred dollars, we should be able to get out another edition of 100,000. This is made possible through the discovery of a new source of paper. However, this avenue of paper importation might not be open to our use. . . we are still working on it. If this were the case, the costs would revert back to what they were on the first printing and even a little higher. If you can, send me a reply at once relative to this request. . ."

This urgent request of August 6 is being held up for lack of funds. Do you feel able to help in Korea? Faithful and reliable missionaries there have translated the tract into Korean and printed an excellent edition, and have very carefully supervised the distribution.

### \$810 NEEDED IN ITALY

Missionary Arthur Wiens, Wheaton College graduate, and now a missionary to the Italians, wrote July 10, saying he had gotten a most reasonable price for another printing, this time of 100,000 "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" booklets in Italian. The price quoted is \$810, "the actual cost of printing. There is also a small cost of sending them out to the missionaries and Christian workers of this land." Only a few remain on hand of the first printing of 85,000. "We have been saving these to send out to the personal workers scattered over Italy who constantly write us for good Gospel tracts for the unsaved," he writes. Then he says they have recently only partially filled the requests of the personal workers of Youth for Christ in Rome, having to ration the booklets because of the limited supply now on hand.

In September a group of nearly 50 missionaries met in Naples, Italy, at the fourth Annual Foreign Missionary Conference. There Mr. Wiens expected to find out the need of the booklet from each missionary.

However, we have not enough money on hand to fulfill the request to print 100,000 more, to care for the needs of the missionaries and others there. How our heart aches when we cannot post a letter immediately to these good missionaries, saying we will supply their need! But that need must be supplied through good friends of the Sword of the Lord work, and so we must first appeal to you, then as funds come in, prayerfully disburse the money where we feel the greatest need. Perhaps someone will feel led to send the whole \$810 for this second printing of 100,000. If so, please write us immediately. This request of long standing is still held up.

Yes, all these requests, when totaled, amount to \$1,765, NEEDED NOW so we can instruct committees to go ahead with additional printings.

This year we have already disbursed from the Free Literature Fund \$11,250.00. Now we do not have money in the Fund to take care of the pressing needs mentioned.

We have received reports of thousands of people who have trusted Christ as their Saviour after reading the booklet. In several instances, offices have had to be opened in foreign lands to care for the correspondence resulting from the wide distribution of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" A well-checked, responsible committee has handled

## Film Review "The Way Out"

Distributed by  
The Berean Gospel Distributors,  
Inc. Films  
715 East 13th Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana

"The Way Out" is a suspense-filled story of Al Johnson, wise guy; too smart to work for the big money he craves. This youngster, guided by an older professional and aided by a younger friend, robs a bank. Things do not go as planned and police, aided by blood hounds, are soon on the trail. But the three outlaws are saved by capture through a freak accident. Two ex-convicts are killed in a car wreck, and the police identify them as two of the three bank robbers! The robbers split up, but Al does not change his ways. Drinking gambling, petty thievery drives him deeper and deeper into the mire, and he feels it is inevitable that he will be discovered by the police sooner or later. Then he meets Beth, a lovely Christian girl, and deceives her by claiming to be a Christian.

The guilty conscience, the knifing tension, the fear of discovery; then Ford Porter's Gospel tract, then a "Genuine Conversion", a public confession in church that is broadcast across the nation as the police move in. The film is brought to a dramatic climax.

From beginning to end, the film maintains interest, building up suspense, and a strong testimony for Christ is unfolded with excellent photography and sound and acting. Black and white, not in color.

My one criticism of this film is the same one I have for "Oil-Town, U. S. A." and many other good films—the portrayal of fine spiritual Christian girls dressed in shorts and slacks! Not serious or even objectionable to many but some of us feel our Christian girls should be encouraged to wear skirts while playing tennis and while on picnics rather than the afore mentioned shorts and slacks.

each translation and distribution. This has been a work well supervised, and as a result, we have felt that the money sent to each committee has been carefully handled, and good reports made back to Sword of the Lord Foundation.

This Free Literature Fund is a fund made up of your \$1 gifts . . . or \$2. . . or \$5. . . \$10, and larger—whatever the Lord lays on your heart. We are so thankful for the help of everyone. Even the smallest amount you are able to send may result in one conversion, or more. Many times, \$1 will enable 50 or 60 people to read this salvation booklet; and who knows what results may be accomplished. So please do not feel that any amount is too small to send to our Free Literature Fund. Your gift added to the gift of another . . . and another, has made this Foreign Free Literature Fund possible. Please pray, and whatever amount God lays on your heart to send—large or small—ask Him to multiply its usefulness through this Fund. All gifts for this foreign work should be addressed to The Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois, designated for Free Literature Fund.

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EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

D.D., LITT.D.

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

EVANGELIST BILL RICE

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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One of Nature's Carpenters  
Some Obnoxious Animals  
The King of Beasts  
The World's Largest Animal  
The Longest Nose in the World  
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The Animal that Carries Its Own Water Tank  
The Man the Bible Calls a Fool  
What Scientists Think About God  
Winged Wonders  
Nature's Streamlined Flyers  
Talking Birds  
The Strange Job of Laying Eggs



BY  
DR. ARTHUR  
I. BROWN, M.D.

## The Honey-Bees' Knees

Today I shall discuss the honey-bee including the wonders of the bee's knees. Honey-bees have been on earth for thousands of years and as far as we know are today exactly what they were from the beginning. They continue, now as always, to excite the greatest degree of admiration and interest, intriguing the human mind that the marvels of their structure, and even more, with the intricacy of their mysterious operations. As our talks continue, we shall examine some of these. For the moment let us glance briefly at the mechanical equipment on the knees of the three pairs of legs possessed by this astonishing insect.

You have, doubtless, noticed the two rodlike projections extending out in front of the bee and constantly on the move. It used to be thought that these were "feelers" but now it is known that they are "smellers"—in fact, the nose of the bee. Apparently, every bee has its own distinctive odor, which characteristically serves admirably as a means of identification among the hive members.

Accordingly, it is necessary that the sense of smell be acute, and that the apparatus be kept in perfect functioning condition. On the tips of these two antennae are thousands of tiny sense-plates—2,000 to 30,000—the queen having the least and the drones the most. The drones need to be able to follow the queen on their nuptial flight—and they do so, not by sight so much as by odor.

These sense-plates are constantly rubbing against pollen dust as the bee inserts her head into the nectar-holding flowers; and occasionally they become coated with propolis or bee-glue. There must be some special appliance then for cleaning and that is exactly what she has. The device resembles a self-threading needle. On the front pair of legs is a moveable piece of horn-like tissue, which can be raised by the bee, making a small opening, on the outer side of which are stakes or teeth—really stiff hairs which serve a very useful purpose. Let us suppose she desires to clean her right antenna. She bends it to the left, lifts the horny piece—the gate—inserts her antenna, drops the gate, and then draws the smeller back and forth between the stiff hairs placed outside the gate, until all dirt and dust be removed. When the same operation is performed on the other side, the tool is again functioning perfectly.

On the middle pair of legs at the knee joint is a short projecting spur, like a diminutive crowbar or elephant's tusk, a very use-

ful tool, needed especially for packing pollen dust into the pollen-basket which is a curious hollow depression on the flat, outer surface of the hind leg. On the inner part of this hind leg are a

series of side-combs; these combs are constantly being applied to the hairy body of the bee in order to gather the pollen dust which is then dropped or scraped into the pollen basket and packed tight by the crow-bar.

The bee's life depends on the efficiency of these devices. There could not possibly have been a time when they did not possess them; otherwise they could not have survived, and these appliances could not develop gradually through long periods of time from a small beginning. They must have been created as we see them today. Chance could not produce these exact and efficient functioning tools. Here is the designing Mind of a Supreme Being.

The Bible tells us to study these amazing insect creatures and to learn from them. This we shall try to do on many future occasions.

But now, let us turn for a few moments to another wonderful product of divine Wisdom. I refer to the Bible. May I offer some general comments on this great and miraculous Book—a true scientific Miracle?

The Bible is a Book which speaks of everything, describes nature, proclaims its grandeur, and tells the story of creation. It informs us of the structure of the heavens, of the creation of light, waters, atmosphere, mountains, animals and plants. It speaks of things visible, and at the same time, speaks of things invisible, and takes us into the realm of the celestial world.

It is the product of many writers of many degrees of mental cultivation, separated by 1,500 years from one another. It is written in the center of Asia, among the sands of Arabia and in the rustic schools of the prophets of Bethel and Jericho. Parts of it originate in the sumptuous palaces of Babylon, on the idolatrous

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## Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS  
By the Editor

Sword EVANGELIST EDDIE WAGNER has just concluded a campaign with the Calvary Baptist Church of Sacramento, California. Dr. Ray Dugger is the splendid pastor of this church which is in the midst of a fast-growing area. During the campaign there were ten first-time decisions for Christ, thirty-seven rededications, and fifty families who promised God they would start daily devotions in the home.

EVANGELIST JOE ARNETT, 3964 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis 8, Missouri, preached twice daily at the Iowa State Fair, August 29—September 7. The campaign, in which thousands were reached with the Word of God and many accepted Christ, was sponsored by Youth for Christ. From September 13-27, Evangelist Arnett was in the Carmel Baptist Church, Mosiertown, Pennsylvania, where Rev. Allison Griffis is the pastor. Following this campaign he preached in the Community Bible Church, Stratford, Wisconsin, where several decisions were made. Rev. George Dunivent is the pastor.

EVANGELIST GUY CARTER of Jacksonville, Florida, preached eleven days in the Eloise Baptist Church, September 13-23, to close six weeks of evangelistic emphasis. During the six weeks there were 37 professions of faith. Rev. C. M. Peacock is the pastor.

Evangelist Carlyle Scott  
Commended  
Rev. S. W. Driggers, editor of

the Rocky Mountain Baptist writes:

"Dear Dr. Rice:  
"Some time ago I wrote you about Brother Carlyle T. Scott as an evangelist. You recommended him highly and we used him. We found him to be a fine evangelist and our people liked him very much. There were nearly fifty professions of faith which was exceptionally good for our small community. . . . Several of those making professions were from families of another church and will go there. We have already baptized twenty of the converts and have seven more awaiting baptism as a result of the meeting. . . ."

SWORD EVANGELIST J. OSCAR WELLS has just completed a revival campaign with the Berean Fundamental Church of Lexington, Nebraska. The pastor, Rev. Kenneth Blood, writes that this is the best meeting the church has ever enjoyed. Some who had caused the pastor trouble came back to the Lord and begged the pastor's forgiveness. The attendance was the best the church had ever experienced. House-to-house visitation was begun and is continuing. Although the small church has only twenty-five members, the Sunday School went up to 176. There were eighteen conversions, thirty-two definite rededications during the campaign.

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Caught in an Oak Tree  
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## Moody Bible Story Book

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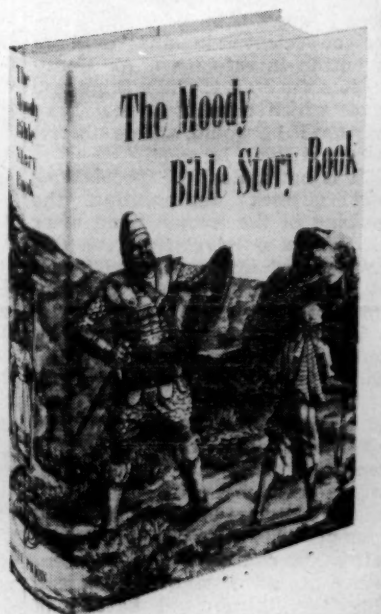
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EVANGELIST

Merle Rosell

presents  
**THIS WEEK'S  
ILLUSTRATIONS  
and QUOTES**

WHAT KIND OF A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE?  
... IS IT JOYLESS AND POWERLESS AND JUICELESS? ...  
OR IS IT TRUE-BLUE, SNOW-WHITE, ONE HUNDRED PER  
CENT, CRYSTAL-PURE, ALL-WOOL, FIRE-PROOF, GUARAN-  
TEED AND INSURED TO LAST FOREVER?

**ACCENT ON ACTION**

1. Every book in the New Testament was written by a foreign missionary.
2. Every letter in the New Testament that was written to an individual was written to a convert of a foreign missionary.
3. Every epistle in the New Testament that was written to a church was written to a foreign missionary church.
4. Every book in the New Testament that was written to a community of believers was written to a general group of foreign missionary churches.
5. The one book of prophecy in the New Testament was written to the seven foreign missionary churches of Asia.
6. The only authoritative history of the early Christian Church is a foreign missionary journal.
7. The disciples were called Christians first in a foreign missionary community.
8. The language of the books of the New Testament is the missionary language.
9. The map of the early Christian world is the tracing of the journeys of the first missionaries.
10. Of the twelve apostles chosen by Jesus every apostle except one became a missionary.
11. The only man among the twelve apostles who did not become a missionary became a traitor.
12. The problems which arose in the early Church were largely questions of missionaries' procedure.
13. Only a foreign missionary could write an everlasting gospel.
14. According to the apostles, missionary service is the highest expression of Christian life.

—William Adams Brown in *The Way*

(From the book of 95 pages, *DRIFTWOOD*. Price, paper binding, \$1. Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)

**Miracles of Science**

(Continued from page 3)

banks of the River Chebar, and afterwards at the center of civilization, amid pantheism, polytheism and infidel philosophy.

Yet, in not a single sentence does it oppose the latest discoveries of science in any field of scientific investigation. As Henry Rogers once said: "The Bible is a book which man could not have written if he would, and would not have written if he could."

It is not a Book of speculations and guesses, representing the groping of the human mind after God. It is a Revelation, the discovery God has made of Himself to mankind. It is the Statute-Book of the human race.

To look at it, it is a Book of scraps, a planless cluster of pamphlets, representing the literature of the most unlettered of nations—66 booklets most diverse in character, scattered thinly over 16 centuries. They are made up of biographies, hymns, episodes of tribal history, laws of a social system which no longer exists, letters to churches dead for centuries, tales of old, far-off and forgotten things and battles of long ago.

One Book is an eastern love story; another is an episode in Persian history which has not in it once the name of God; yet another is a letter carried by an escaped slave who is being sent back to his master. This amazing Book affronts all expectation, and seems in its literary form, entirely unfitted for the great offices of a Bible, yet it has influenced the history of the race and the imagination of the world, not only more than any other book which can be named, but more than all books put together. It has determined the morality of the race. Nations LIVE by it, or die by quarreling with it. This tiny collection of Hebrew books not only lies on every pulpit lid in Christendom, but it is the shaping force in human affairs everywhere.

Generation after generation arises, each with its separate

ideals and deeds, each with its own language. The literature of yesterday is not the literature of today. Famous books go out of fashion and are read only by scholars and antiquarians, but this immortal Book is the contemporary of all the ages. It talks with the accents of each generation in turn. The silver cord of the Bible is not loosed nor its golden bowl broken as centuries slip by like beads on the thread of time.

History is strewn with the wrecks of a hundred perished literatures, but time has no destroying office for biblical records. Some element not born of human genius lies in its pages, and outshines genius. This book belongs to all the centuries and outlives them all.

One sublime idea shines behind the many books of the Bible. This idea is the recovery of a fallen race, and the great instrument of this process is the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible is a portrait. The face of Christ looks out—tender, pure, divine—from every page. Is it credible that 66 chance daubs, of chance colors, made without any agreement among themselves by a number of chance men, could possibly produce a face which not only arrests the attention, but stirs the love of the world? No! There must be a single controlling Mind behind the brush of the Artist. No one can pretend that a handful of untaught Jews, herdsmen, fishermen, peasants, could outscale in intellectual, literary power, all the great minds not only of Greek and Latin literature, but of the literature of all races and all ages.

To take the personal and intellectual element in the writers and to try to explain the Bible by them is like taking the dead wire, the metal switch, the loop of calcined fibres, and offering them as an explanation of the electric light, itself. These things are but the channel of that subtle, invisible force, running back into mystery that we call electricity.

(Continued from page 1)

The power that makes one able to win souls is miraculous power.

In honor to God I must say that I have seen what seemed to me to be physical miracles. I put my hands upon a woman dying with tuberculosis, sent home after two years in a State hospital, to die, given up by all the doctors. Her children had been given away, the home sold, so certain was she, her husband and all her family that death would come with the next hemorrhage. She was reduced almost to skin and bones, could speak only in a whisper. But I prayed for her to be healed, and in answer to prayer, God raised her up miraculously. In two weeks she had her strength back and was doing her own housework. When I saw her a few months later she had gained forty pounds. I saw her four years later—not a trace of tuberculosis had reappeared. Twenty years later she had a fine position and is now, I trust, still in good health. No possible human factors can explain that immediate healing. It is not always God's will to heal, but that time it was His will, and He did it, I think, by a physical miracle. I have seen God stop the rain in answer to prayer so we could continue with great revival services unmolested. I have seen God bring the rain in answer to prayer to cure a four-month drouth in Texas. I have seen four men struck down, dying unexpectedly, suddenly, one and then another, and then another, then another, after they had organized to hinder the work of God. No ordinary and human explanation will do. I believe it was a miracle.

We cannot leave the miraculous out of Christianity, if it be the Bible kind of Christianity. The Christian religion is a miracle religion.

**THE SWORD OF THE LORD Demands a Miracle**

Today I sadly turned down an invitation to a revival campaign. I do not have the time, cannot get consent that it will please God. I must do this work at the SWORD OF THE LORD office. I will have some revival campaigns, but must turn down most single church campaigns. I am doing something larger, something more important than speaking to a few hundred people in revival. Then must I not have the miraculous help of the Lord Jesus if THE SWORD OF THE LORD is to be what it ought to be?

This morning there came a letter, a heart-moving letter, from a beloved preacher of the Gospel, a pastor, an unusual preacher. He is burdened and has accepted a quota of one thousand subscriptions during our present twentieth anniversary subscription effort. This is sacrificial and tremendous. Now is THE SWORD OF THE LORD worth that effort, that cost, that much time? If so, surely we have a right to expect God to intervene and put His holy hands upon this work and bless it!

The other day I had a letter from Jacob Friesen in Kansas. As a middle-aged man, with nine sons, most of them grown, he was unsaved until a sermon in this maga-

When any one can explain the electric light without an electric current, then we may explain the Bible without a divine inspiration. Something is in the Book which breaks out, now in one place, now in another, with pulses of spiritual energy, gleams of unearthly light. It is flooded from cover to cover with inspiration. It is as though at first one cluster of words and then another become suddenly and strangely luminous. For the devout soul, the Bible is always a Book of divinest magic.

As you have scanned the pages, have you seen the face of the Man of Galilee—the wonderful Saviour of the world? Has He come into your life? If not, why not give Him a chance to do what you cannot do for yourself? All He requires is to be invited. Will you do it today? It would be an intelligent and logical decision to make.

(From the book, *MIRACLES OF SCIENCE*, 287 pages, \$2.00. Order from Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)

**Miracle Business**

zine cut him to the heart and turned him to Jesus Christ. Now he has won over seven hundred souls to Christ. That was a miracle of God, wrought through THE SWORD OF THE LORD. This paper demands miracles.

This week a letter came from Richard Lee Hammer, saved sixteen years ago through a sermon of mine in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. That was a miracle. Last week there was a letter from a prisoner just being released from a State penitentiary in Ohio. He was turned to God through THE SWORD OF THE LORD while in jail, and now wrote with a beautiful testimony, a sober, honest Christian going back home to live for God and having us change his address for THE SWORD OF THE LORD! What happened to him was a miracle!

I preached in a town in Eastern Georgia. Across the state one day drove a Methodist preacher. He had gone to Emory University. There his faith was shattered. He had been taught that the Bible was not all true; that the miracles did not happen, that the virgin birth was a myth. He had thrown away his faith, had turned away from the ministry. Then one day in THE SWORD OF THE LORD he saw an article, "Is Jesus God?" He read it, and then another article, "Letter to a Modernist," and other chapters which are now published in the book, *Is Jesus God?* He read those articles in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, God spoke to him and renewed the faith of his Christian mother, the faith of his childhood. He came back to Christ, found new joy and assurance, and went into the ministry. Now, as a pastor, he drove across the state to tell me and to shake my hand. That, I say, is a miracle.

There is no way in the world for THE SWORD OF THE LORD to do the work that God has laid on our hearts to do unless there is the supernatural, miracle-working power of the Holy Spirit in every issue. Oh, God give us that power!

Years ago in the work of THE SWORD OF THE LORD when I was pastor in Dallas, Texas, we had accumulated a debt of \$920, which, at that time, was crushing. I went for revival services, hoping to put the love offering on the expenses of this weekly paper. The offering amounted to only \$25, for ten or twelve days' work in revival. But that night I had laid things on the altar. I told the dear Lord Jesus that He must take over THE SWORD OF THE LORD, that I dared not fret nor make any demands for remuneration to carry on this work. Within thirty-six hours I received a check for \$1,000 from a man whom I had never met, and had never contacted. I rejoiced and thanked God and vowed that henceforth I would trust the dear Lord Jesus to work miracles through this, His magazine. I said, "The Lord has taken over this paper and He will pay the bills, and He will make it do its work."

Now I am determined that THE SWORD OF THE LORD shall daily manifest the miraculous power of God.

**What a Miracle-Working God Can Do and Requires of Us in THE SWORD OF THE LORD**

When we announced that we would endeavor by God's help and by the help of interested Christians to reach 200,000 paid subscriptions for THE SWORD OF THE LORD by September 28, 1954, we meant to make room for a miracle. We know that by human methods and powers, that is improbable, unnatural, and humanly impossible. We do not have the money to pay for such subscriptions. This editor does not have the tremendous popularity which would get that many people to subscribe for themselves, unless God should work a miracle. The dependence of preachers and Christian workers on their own denominations, their interest in their own institutions, the natural self interest which everybody has is such that, unless God moves human hearts, they would not send in that many subscriptions.

The human heart being what it is, there are not enough people burdened about over-all soul win-

ning, burdened about revival outside their own churches, willing to sacrifice for the things for which THE SWORD OF THE LORD stands, to send in 200,000 paid subscriptions within one year, unless God miraculously touches their hearts.

Therefore, we need miracles given from God to advance the work of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

We need the supernatural work of God to convict and save sinners through the sermons published each week in this paper. We need the miracle-working Spirit of God to transform preachers, to set churches on fire, to stir up revivals.

We need the power of God, the miraculous power such as was manifested in Bible times and recorded in the book of Acts, to change individuals, homes, churches, and communities through THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

And just so, God Himself must speak to people who read this article and show them their part in getting subscriptions for THE SWORD.

We have just received a letter dated October 11 from a beloved pastor who writes:

"Dear Brother Rice: "For some time, now, my heart has been heavily concerned about the large one-year subscription goal for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I felt God wanted me to do something in this effort. The question in my heart has been, How much? After considerable prayer and thought, and unusual, clear guidance and help from God, I believe He wants me to accept 1,000 subscriptions at \$1.50 each as my quota for this year's effort."

That is an indication of the moving of the Spirit of God. Further, the preacher tells how, when he made the decision, a deep peace settled on his heart. Further, God sent \$50 totally unexpected, to help in the work. He weighed the burdens, the objections, but God pressed upon his heart this duty. That was the miracle-working power of the Holy Spirit. May God multiply that kind of work ten thousand times, in the hearts of ten thousand others who read this message today!

Please read again the text we started with, from Jeremiah 33:3, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and (Continued on page 5)

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# Preaching ~ Power ~ Promotion



"... the word of the Lord. . . Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."—Zech. 4:6

By Dr. D. A. (Scotchie) McCall  
Minister of Revival Promotion,  
Sword of the Lord Foundation

## Revival for the Saved: How to Get It

I. Know God's Word. 1. It says people are lost. 2. It says only Jesus saves. 3. It says, repent toward God, trust Jesus, confess Him before men. Give to others what it says. 4. It says sin will prevent revival. Confess sins. 5. It says Christian fellowship essential.

II. Pray for revival. The Psalmist did (Ps. 85:6). Habakkuk prayed for revival. The apostles did.

III. Plead with the lost to accept Christ. Visit. Win. Jesus did. John the Baptist did. Andrew did. Paul did. The woman of Sychar did.

IV. Preach Christ and Him crucified.

V. Remember it is God's plan to take the Gospel to the lost! "Go!" Matthew 22, Luke 19.

## Revival for the Lost

I. They need to realize they are lost. God says they are lost. His word tells them they are lost. 1. This means they are separated from God. 2. This means for them Hell forever.

II. They need to know they may be saved. God says as much. How? 1. Repentance toward God. 2. Faith in Christ. 3. Confess Him before men.

III. They need to realize the urgency involved. 1. "Now" 2. Good intentions do not save. 3.

## The Sure Word of God

(Continued from page 1)

tude to feed on God's Word in their search for peace and comfort. Instead, all Satan has to do is to keep the readers from believing what they read. And right here is where you and I come in. Even if there were a Bible in the hands of every person on earth, we would still have Christ's urgent command, "Give ye them to eat"—help them to believe what they read as Philip helped the Ethiopian officer.

And if we are to help others to believe that God's Book is true, we must ourselves know, not just hope or wonder if it is, but know that the Bible is true. We must

get it out of our minds that much of the Scripture is to be taken as exaggerated folklore in which there is only a grain of truth here and there. This is a widely accepted attitude, whether people have thought it through and acknowledged it or not. The majority of the people who have written on the Bible, or have retold the Bible stories, have introduced this question mark interpretation throughout their writings. Consequently to read a book about the Bible is more likely to undermine to some extent the very faith that the reader was hoping to strengthen, and in the process of time we are

God makes no promise of saving them tomorrow!

"Oh, Why Not Tonight?"

## Great Rallies

The three great sword anniversary rallies of Chicago, Pontiac, and Chattanooga, are history. Folks were saved. Many were rededicated. Multitudes were helped. Dr. Rice, Jones, and Roberson were at their best bringing great messages.

Dr. Tom Malone at Pontiac has been greatly blessed of God. He is pastor of a great and growing church. His building is unique and beautiful.

We had heard of the great work of Dr. Lee Roberson at Chattanooga, Tennessee. It was good to get inside and see a miracle of grace and growth.

Two other great revival rallies are scheduled at Mobile—two days, and Lakeland, Florida—three days, this fall. Watch for the dates, locations, and programs. They will be great boosts for real revival.

gradually becoming a nation of doubters and agnostics without being conscious of it.

From the hundreds of popular secular books which have contributed largely to this doubting attitude of Bible readers, let me choose one of the milder ones which millions of people have read in recent years and have in many cases been blest in doing so. It is *The Robe*, by Lloyd Douglas. It is not necessary for my purpose that I should cite the several instances in the book in which the facts, as the Bible states them, are set aside. Let us simply look at the interpretation of the feeding of the five thousand.

Let me say, first of all, that I have the profoundest sympathy for the sincerity and the enthusiasm of Lloyd Douglas in attempting to make God known to the people. What minister or Bible teacher has not known the temptation often to "fix" a difficult Bible statement or story a bit so as to make it easier to believe? How often, when faced with some Bible situation that just does not appeal to the reason of our tiny minds, we turn to one commentator after another, to the Hebrew or to the Greek, hoping to find a different meaning—something that will make the story seem reasonable even though the text is strained and distorted? But fortunate is the minister or teacher who has never compromised by yielding to such tactics, for sooner or later facts will rise to make ridiculous the one who has. God's Word is its own vindicator. Give it time.

Lloyd Douglas, in telling the story of the feeding of the five thousand, completely removes the miracle by having the little boy give his meager lunch to Jesus; and when the great number of other people who had also brought their lunches with them saw what the generous little boy had done, they also brought forth what they had and gave it to the Master. Jesus in turn divided the abundance of food thus acquired among the people and everybody had all he could eat. A pretty story, and it has a valuable lesson, but it is not true!

Now either the Bible is true, or it is a pack of untruths that has no equal. Let us notice what it says about what happened that day. In John 6:13 we read that they, "... filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten." Not the fragments of a lot of lunches, but the fragments of the five barley loaves which the little boy had given. Moreover, John, who was there when it happened, says in the very next verse, "When they had seen the miracle..." Now let me ask you, What was there miraculous in the Douglas interpretation of that story? Why any preacher could have done that much, just get a crowd to give what they had hidden away in their pockets for themselves. But no other person who has ever lived and got a crowd to give a good collection has been heralded as a Messiah because he did it! Yet listen to this sentence in John's story: "Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world."

Let me add that for some reason

## Miracle Business

(Continued from page 4)

mighty things, which thou knowest not."

It is "great and mighty things" which God wants us to expect. He wants us to ask for mighty things, miraculous things. We sin in asking God for things so small that men could give them.

Today I closed the doors of my office and with a hungry heart turned pages of my Bible. I came again upon Psalm 55:22, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

You see, God must help. The Lord must carry the burden. He must stir your heart to help or you will not help.

## What You Can Do

These are the things you can do if you will and if God's Spirit moves your heart to help carry the load for THE SWORD.

1. You can accept a quota and set out to send in 25, or 50, or 100, or 200, or 500, or 1,000 subscriptions within the next ten or twelve months. You may either pay for the subscriptions yourself, or have others pay for them. They may be either new or renewal. If you sign an agreement accepting such a quota of 25 or more subscriptions to be sent by September 28, 1954, you may send them in at the rock-bottom price of \$1.50 per year in the United States, \$2 per year in Canada and foreign countries. This is the first and most important thing you can do, and surely nearly anybody can take such a quota and work at it and get subscriptions.

2. Or you may have a "Sword of the Lord Sunday" in your church. If the pastor will make a 5-minute talk about THE SWORD OF THE LORD, will appoint and publicly announce someone present who will agree to send in subscriptions for

all four of the Gospel writers record this story of the miraculous multiplying of the loaves and the fishes in Jesus' hands. Many of the most important deeds in the Gospel story are told by only one, or two, or three of the writers. But all four chose the feeding of the five thousand as of such particular importance that it was included by them in their accounts. Why, unless it is literally true?

Did I say that sooner or later the effort to vindicate God's Word in man's way, rather than waiting for God to do it, would be made to look ridiculous? Thousands of Christians who read that whitewashed story of the feeding of the five thousand to which we have referred, were perhaps weak enough to say to themselves, "Yes, perhaps it was like that. After all, how could such a little lunch be increased to feed a great multitude without breaking all the laws of nature?" But that was before a certain atomic bomb struck a city in Japan and stunned the whole wide world with the fact that something not much bigger than a tea-cup can be so increased by the splitting of atoms that it can cause the death of hundreds of

(Continued on page 6)

those who wish to take THE SWORD and will give out sample copies to his congregation, when he writes and agrees to these three things, that he will do in one of the main preaching services, I will send him his choice of three books. He may have either *Prayer: Asking and Receiving*, or *The Power of Penance*, or *What It Costs to Be a Good Christian*, books ranging from \$2.25 to \$3 in price. The pastor may have his choice if he agrees to these conditions in writing and sets a "Sword of the Lord Sunday" in one of the main preaching services of his church.

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## The Sure Word of God

(Continued from page 5)

thousands of people. If man can do a thing like that, what could not the Son of God do in multiplying bread without breaking any of the laws of nature? When we put a question mark after anything in God's Word we are simply showing our ignorance of facts that have been known to God since the foundation of the world, and someday they will arise to embarrass us.

How difficult the higher critics have made it for people to accept the destruction of *Sodom and Gomorrah* by fire and brimstone rained from Heaven as the Genesis story relates it; but it should not be hard for any one in Japan to believe it after what has happened there. That story of Gideon offering a kid over which he had poured the broth in which it had been cooked and fire coming out of the rock which consumed it—was that once hard to believe? Or did it once seem unreasonable to you that fire fell and consumed the huge offering that Elijah made on Mt. Carmel, including the bullock, the wood, the stones, the dust and the twelve barrelsful of water that had been poured over them? Or that a great light shone at the conversion of Saul of Tarsus that blinded him for three days? Or that at the word of Elisha a whole army of Syrians were smitten with blindness? If men with the use of atomic energy have done such marvelous things as they have, and as we are expecting them to do in the near future, how absurd it has been for critics to dispute the statements of Holy Writ that God has done what He claims? Let us not worry our little minds about vindicating God's Word. The Psalmist tells us, "Thy testimonies are very sure" (Ps. 93:5); and in Isaiah 40:8 we find the words of our texts: "But the word of our God shall stand for ever."

It is, however, very true that there has been much in the Bible

that our little minds could not understand, but things are happening every year that are making more of these puzzling problems come out crystal clear. I well remember when many a thing stated in the Bible had to be taken on faith that today can be taken on sight. I remember when scoffers were able to raise many questions for which there seemed to be no reasonable answer, except that the thing was true because God's Word said so. But the answer to many of those questions has become plain and simple by the light which science has brought upon the scene in recent years—light that makes the higher critics and the infidels of a generation ago, who wrote their denials of God's holy Word, look exceedingly ignorant and absurd. Suppose we look at some of those Bible puzzlers which time has so delightfully solved for us, remembering that many a similar problem has a like solution awaiting us.

### 1. The Voice Around the World

In I Thessalonians 4:16 we read "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God," and the dead all over the earth, who were his true followers, shall rise and, together with his living saints throughout the world, they will meet him in the air: "... and so shall we ever be with the Lord." But that voice is to be heard around the world. In 1900 the average person would have said, "But how could that be true without breaking the laws of nature?" Today when hundreds of mothers and wives and sweethearts have heard the voices of the men they loved speaking to them from the other side of the globe, and you and I have listened in and have heard their replies and recognized the joy note in their voices, this

passage is no longer a mystery. If the president of the United States can sit at his fireside and send out his voice over the air so that it can be heard all over the world, and through television, we can see him as he is, there is no longer any question in anybody's mind, not even that of the most skeptical, that the Son of God can do the same thing—be heard and seen the world around. But suppose that radio and television had never been discovered. Suppose that you and I had never found out that there is a law of nature by which a voice can be heard and its owner seen in every corner of the earth at the same time. Would that have changed the facts in the least? Would it have been any less likely that Jesus Christ could and would, without breaking any natural law, someday speak so that even the dead whose souls are in tune with His would hear or that every eye should one day see Him? And He would not need a radio! It has been so easy to doubt, hasn't it? And it has been so easy to fall into the trap of explaining away so much that the Scriptures have foretold. But the wise person is the one who has accepted by faith what his eyes could not see, for "The word of our God shall stand forever."

### 2. The Fact That Men Would Someday Fly Around on Earth

In a number of places in the Scriptures there are hints that men will travel by flying, but in Isaiah 60:8 there is more than a hint. It reads, referring unquestionably to men, "Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as a dove to their windows?" In the days when school children laughed at the poetic story of "Darius Greene and His Flying Machine" the fact that God's Word talked about the same thing was made to sound very funny; but this must be one of the times when "He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision" (Ps. 2:4). "Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows?" As many thousand planes fly over enemy territory today, certainly nobody is left on earth who finds the references to flying in the Bible a bit out of the way. If you have ever watched a half-dozen planes land on a great field at one time and glide into their hangers, can you possibly think of a more accurate description of the scene than that they looked like doves flying to their windows? Even their color is usually the color of doves.

Even away back in World War I

you remember how perfectly the way in which General Allenby took Jerusalem had been described in Isaiah 31:5: "As birds flying, so will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending it also he will deliver it; and passing over it he will preserve it." Some of you will perhaps recall that the whole world was holding its breath over what seemed to be the certain destruction of Jerusalem, with all of its relics, sacred alike to Christians, Jews and Mohammedans. The enemy had mined the city and was prepared to blow it up rather than give it into the hands of the Allies.

General Allenby and his staff, some distance away, retired to his tent and prayed for Divine guidance in taking the Holy City without causing its destruction. In the meanwhile a flock of airplanes was ordered to fly over Jerusalem, encircling it again and again until they received further orders. Airplanes were new in those days and the sight of these birds flying over their city brought on such a state of nerves that the people fled, and, without waiting for orders to do so, the officer in charge sought out the first official of the Allies that he could find and surrendered to him—without a mine being set off, without a sacred relic disturbed. "As birds flying," so had the Lord of hosts defended Jerusalem—but note also the rest of that verse: "... defending it also he will deliver it; and passing over it he will preserve it." Imagine the embarrassment of the living writers who had passed this passage off as a pretty flight of imagination upon the part of a trance-drunk prophet by the name of Isaiah. Remember, "Thy testimonies are very sure," how "very sure" we are beginning to understand, and, "The word of our God shall stand for ever."

### 3. The Falling of the Walls of Jericho

You remember the story as told in Joshua 6, how the Israelites marched around the city of Jericho for a week, once a day until the last day when they marched around seven times. Then, at just the moment when God had said that it would happen, the priests blew their trumpets, the people shouted and the walls of Jericho fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city "every man straight before him," and they took the city, which they burned after removing from it every bit of metal of every kind.

That really was a funny one, wasn't it? The infidels in their addresses to a gullible public could make it so very funny—just like *Jack and the Bean Stalk*, or *The Old Woman Who Swept the Cobwebs out of the Moon*. But they had not counted on the archeologists who in time decided to excavate various cities of Bible lands, among them Jericho. When they unearthed that city they found its walls lying flat—not pushed in by an enemy, as the higher critics had taught the world, but pushed out, as if by an earthquake. The Bible story said that Rahab's house on the side of Jericho next the mountains had been left standing and that she and all within her house were saved. And sure enough, there on the side toward the mountains, a portion of the wall was left standing, and on it a house undisturbed that could very well have been Rahab's. But that was not all. Although in every other city in Palestine that has been excavated there have been found gold, silver, brass and iron, there was not a bit to be found in all Jericho. It had been taken as an offering to the Lord, just as the book of Joshua records. And the city had been burned, as God's Book says. Great heaps of half-burned grain were found and more than one handful of it was brought to America by the excavators.

Funny? Yes, very gratifyingly funny that the Word of the Lord cannot lie, but that sooner or later every jot and every tittle of it will be fulfilled, for, "The word of our God shall stand for ever." (Facts from Sir Charles Marston in *New Bible Evidence*).

### 4. The North Stretched Out Over the Empty Places

The infidels of a generation or two ago did not have much trouble with that one. Job said that God

had stretched out the north over an empty place (Job 26:7). But all the critics had to do was to turn their telescopes on the north to find out that that was not so. Why, any direction in which you looked there were stars, in the north just the same as in the other directions. That settled it, of course. But when the great telescope of the Naval Observatory in Washington was put into action, it was discovered that *beyond* the stars in the north, and in the north only, there was a *great empty space*. How had Job known it was there? Yet he had said that God "stretched out the north over the empty place." And it would have been true, whether the new telescopes had ever been discovered or not, for, "the word of our God shall stand for ever." (Facts from Prof. Loomis of Yale University).

### 5. Zebulun to Be a Haven for Ships

When Jacob was about to die, he foretold what was to happen to his descendants and he said, "Zebulun shall be a haven for ships" (Gen. 49:13). Zebulun was that portion of Palestine around Mt. Carmel and including that little bay of Haifa. Now to say that the time would ever come when that shallow bay would be a haven for big ships was simply so absurd that it just had to be excused by saying that poor old Jacob on his death bed was having hallucinations. When I was at Haifa the first time that bay was merely a shelter for small fishing craft. And for a good reason, nothing larger could get into it. But only a few years later the British government, wanting to build a great harbor along the coast of Palestine, for some unexplained reason passed by Joppa, the port where ships had been landing ever since the days when Jonah tried to run away from God by taking a boat there. And just as God's Word had been foretelling for 3,800 years, Haifa became a haven for the great ships of the world; for the British government built there one of the finest seaports along the Mediterranean. It was opened in 1933, at a cost of more than \$5,000,000. Such a thing was most unexpected, but it happened, for, "Thy testimonies are very sure" and, "The word of our God standeth for ever." (Authority, George T. B. Davis in *Rebuilding Palestine According to Prophecy*).

### 6. Asher Would Be a Place of Oil

When Moses was about to die, he made the statement that the time would come when Asher would dip his foot in oil. (Deut. 33:24). Now Asher is the division of land just north of Haifa, and in a general way it is the shape of the sole of a slipper, with the toe reaching down almost to the bay of Haifa. There was no oil there, never had been, never could be. Surely, it seemed, this prophecy of Moses was that of a dying man quite out of his mind. But God knew something would one day happen that nobody else could possibly have known 3,500 years ago, except through Him. In July, 1934, there was completed a great pipe line reaching through the desert from Mesopotamia to Haifa, almost a thousand miles, to bring the great supplies of oil in that vast territory so far away, to the ship's in Haifa's new harbor. And pipe lines running past the very toe of Asher's "foot" soon began emptying into the ships awaiting it, as much as 5,500 tons of oil in a day, which is the same as saying that they carried about a million gallons a day, greatly increased later! Notice the accuracy of the prophecy—it does not say that Asher immersed his foot in oil, but he shall "dip his foot in oil." Yes, the word of our God stands very sure, and "shall stand for ever!" (Authority, George T. B. Davis in *Rebuilding Palestine According to Prophecy*).

My friends, can you trust the Book that is as dependable as all that?

**GOD'S WORD—There It Stands!**  
Century follows century—there it stands!  
Empires rise and fall and are forgotten—there it stands!  
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(Continued on page 7)

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Then again, he says, after watching a bulldog walk down the street, oblivious to the yapping of small dogs:

"One or two other small dogs joined him and the barking became a chorus. And all the while that bulldog traveled steadily on up the sidewalk, looking neither to the right nor left, as though there were not a fice in God's great universe."

"I did not laugh. I went into my room and said my prayers. 'O God, whatever that bulldog's got, I want!' Oh, for the ability to walk with strong tread straight ahead and let them yap and snarl and growl and bark to their heart's content!"



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## These Events Must Occur!

(Continued from page 1)

intelligence. And all the while, as inexorable as the passing of time, the hurricane of Divine judgment is bearing down upon their souls. The Word of God speaks so clearly and forcibly about coming events. And in some of these everyone of us has a most important part. Let us consider carefully the Word of God and in particular three events which must come to pass. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation" (Heb. 9:27, 28). Blessed indeed are they that read and heed the living Word of the Living God. These events must occur:

### I. Death

"It is appointed unto men once to die." That is what the Bible declares, and it is a truth most of us would have sense enough to recognize, even though the Bible said nothing about it. As it must to all men, death will one day come to each of us. Our bodies will cease to function and we will be pronounced dead. Our souls of course will live on forever, as the Scripture says, either in Heaven or in Hell. There is one great exception to this rule, as every Bible student knows. As with Enoch and Elijah, who never say physical death, so with the Christian who will be living on this earth at the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. For when our Lord comes a second time the Christians who will then be living on this earth

shall never see physical death. They shall be changed in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, and shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air (I Thess. 4:15-17). Barring this exception, "it is appointed unto men once to die."

Death is a sobering, solemn, certain fact. You may postpone but you can never cancel this appointment. This is an appointment you must keep. "I have a rendezvous with death," wrote World War I poet Alan Seeger just before his death. We know not what a day will bring forth. Not one of us has the assurance he will be alive tomorrow at this time. For the nature of this universe and the essential order of things as well as the Word of God all voice the great fact of this event which must occur in the experience of us all, "It is appointed unto men once to die." It may come by natural means, or violently in some unfortunate accident, or when we least expect the unwelcome visitor called Death. But come it must, for God's Word is eternally true and there has never failed one word of all He has promised. The important question now to ask is: "After death, what then?"

Years ago an East Indian officer who had spent many years in the service of his country, was relating to a company of friends some of the striking incidents of his eventful life. He had served many years under the British flag and had a very vital part in bringing the East Indies under British authority. As he told of long sieges, fierce battles, the outbreak of mutiny and its suppression, of serious reverses in conflict, of wonderful victories, of many thrilling escapes and daring dashes, he held his audience of friends spellbound. After having spent some time recounting his experiences to the delight and keen interest of his friends, he concluded by saying, "I am expecting more wonderful experiences than these."

His friends did not understand him. They knew he had retired from service. So, after a brief pause, he said, "I mean in the first five minutes after death." This man was a noble Christian and he anticipated with much joy his first five minutes after his departure from this life into the presence of his Lord and Saviour. But this blessed privilege of being in the presence of Christ after death is not for all people. Everything, as we shall see later, depends on one's relation to Jesus Christ. So ponder well this tremendous truth: "It is appointed unto men once to die."

Loved ones will weep o'er my silent face,  
Dear ones will clasp me in fond embrace,

Shadows and darkness will fill the place,  
Five minutes after I die.

Faces that sorrow I will not see,  
Voices that murmur will not reach me,  
But where, oh where, will my spirit be,  
Five minutes after I die?

### II. Judgment

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Let it be noted that no mention is made here of the time of the coming judgment but only of the fact that this stupendous event must occur. Elsewhere we are told of a "judgment seat of Christ" for Christians, (II Cor. 5:10; I Cor. 3:10-15), and of a final judgment of lost sinners. God would have us believe therefore that, for each, some time after death comes judgment. And as sure as night follows day, so judgment follows death.

Elsewhere we read of the judgment for the lost as follows: "Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city" which does not receive the gospel (Matt. 10:15).

... "it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee,"—that is, Capernaum (Matt. 11:24).

Jesus also says: "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment" (Matt. 12:36).

God "... now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead" (Acts 17:30, 31).

Second Thessalonians 1:8 speaks of the coming time when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from Heaven with His mighty angels "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ," and that such shall be punished with everlasting destruction.

In II Peter 2:9 we are further taught, "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished." (cf. also II Pet. 3:7; I John 4:17; Jude 6; Rev. 20:11-15).

### 1. Judgment for Christians

But these coming times of judgment (different times for saved and lost) will affect people in two ways, depending on whether or not they belong to the Lord Jesus Christ and know Him as their personal Saviour and Redeemer. Those who are Christians, who have placed their faith in Christ and trust Him alone to save them from their sins, are forever saved. The coming judgment for them will not be for the purpose of determining whether or not they will get into Heaven. That was determined when they received Christ as their Saviour. They are as sure of Heaven now, by the grace of God, as they ever will be.

This judgment, for the Christian, is to determine the amount of rewards he will receive in that coming day. The Christian who has been out-and-out for his Saviour, who has been faithful in the study of the Word, who has been a person of prayer, a soul winner, a really consecrated Christian, will in his coming day of judgment receive many rewards. For he has built his life upon Christ, using such materials as "gold, silver, precious stones." His work shall abide and "he shall receive a reward" (I Cor. 3:11-15).

On the other hand, the Christian who has been lukewarm toward his Saviour, who has been indifferent and neglectful of his Christian duties, will "suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire" (I Cor. 3:15). Though saved, he has built with the combustible materials of "wood, hay, stubble." And this coming judgment following the death of a Christian is to determine the rewards such a person will or will not receive. But let it clearly be said the Christian is as much saved now as he will ever be, as far as living eternally in Heaven is concerned. He has everlasting

## The Sure Word of God

(Continued from page 6)

Kings are crowned and uncrowned there it stands!  
Despised and torn to pieces—there it stands!  
Storms of hate and malice swirl about it—there it stands!  
Atheists rail against it—there it stands!  
Agnostics smile cynically—there it stands!  
Profane, prayerless punsters caricature it—there it stands!  
The flames are kindled about it—there it stands!

life as his present possession through faith in Christ (John 3:36). This coming judgment for the Christian, therefore is not to determine whether or not he is saved, for that was eternally settled when he came to Christ. This judgment is for the purpose of determining what rewards he should have or should not have, depending on his fidelity to the Saviour during his lifetime. For we Christians "... must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (II Cor. 5:10).

### 2. Judgment for Unconverted Sinners

Infinitely more terrible is the coming judgment for the person who dies without Christ. And this judgment will most certainly come since God says so forcibly: "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." For those who know not God and obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ shall be punished with eternal destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power (II Thess. 1:8, 9). In that awful day the Lord Jesus Christ shall say to all who have died unrepentant, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41). How terrible are these words which God has given to warn all such, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake of which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8).

How can anyone who knows not the Lord Jesus as personal Saviour have one moment of peace and joy in view of such tremendous truths as these spoken by our great God? Let all such heed the warning to flee the wrath to come and find eternal refuge in the Saviour. Some may scoff at these words and boastfully say they don't believe in any Hell. They remind one of the words of Billy Sunday, "A man is a fool who thinks, because he doesn't believe in a Hell, that his opinion shuts the door and puts the fire out." Disbelieving God's Word does not affect the truth it contains.

A young minister was confronted—as the congregation expected—with an able young skeptic, Burt Olney. At the close of the first service Olney said, "You did well, but you know, I don't believe in the infallibility of the Bible."

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment," was the young man's calm assertion.

"I can prove to you there is no such thing as a judgment after death," declared the skeptic.

"But men do die," the young pastor declared, "for it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

"But that's no argument," the skeptic protested, "let's get down to business and discuss this matter in regular argument form."

The pastor shook his head. "I am here to preach the Word of God, and not to argue over it."

Olney, annoyed, turned away with the remark, "I don't believe you know enough about the Bible to argue about it."

"Perhaps you are right," was the calm rejoinder, "but please remember this—it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

The very tree toads Olney heard on the way home sang the verse, and the stream he crossed, and

(Continued on page 8)

An anvil that has broken a million hammers—there it stands!

And, my friends, this same Bible which is daily proving its truth before our very eyes is the one in which God personally calls you to leave all and come to Him. It is through that Book that Jesus Christ is calling to you to bring your little lunch—your talents, your possessions, yourself—and let Him multiply them to feed the world. He is crying out to you, "Give ye them to eat!" But there is no other way to do it than by first believing Him so fully that you will bring your all to Him to have it increased in His omnipotent hands, and then by heeding His command to go and teach others to love Him and to believe His Word absolutely—for, "The Word of our God shall stand—for ever!"

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.  
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word!

Oh, lead me, Lord, that I may lead

The wandering and the wavering feet:

Oh, feed me, Lord, that I may feed Thy hungering ones with manna sweet.

Oh, fill me with Thy fulness, Lord,  
Until my very heart o'erflow  
In kindling thought and glowing word,  
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

Oh, use me, Lord, use even me,  
Just as Thou wilt, and how, and where;

Until Thy blessed face I see,  
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share.

### "I Didn't Know They Cared So Much!"

She was sitting at the kitchen table, peering over a cup of tea at the mail the postman had brought. She was a little old woman, living alone, and it was the day before Christmas. Folks in the community loved her—loved to see her bent figure hobbling slowly down the street, shopping basket on arm, calling out cheery greetings. But today, everyone was with his own family. She sat alone, reading the Christmas greetings friends had sent.

"Oh!" she said suddenly. Out of an envelope she had pulled a beautiful little booklet, that sparkled in a patch of sunlight. "I didn't know they cared so much!" Her fingers traced the title, *The Angel's Christmas Message*. "Why, I'll read it right now," she said aloud.

And she did. She read of the eagerness of the angels as they triumphantly took part in the best thing that ever happened to a poor, sinning, fallen, accursed race. She read why the angels came to shepherds—the poor and lowly—why they brought their message to believing hearts, not to scoffers. She read how that the angel's message was for the whole world—not just a few; that it announced a Saviour for sinners. Her heart was filled with wonder as she realized anew how the baby born that day was Christ the Lord, God Incarnate.

Finally she closed the book, patting it affectionately. How dear it was of those friends so far away to send a booklet that would make the presence of the Lord Jesus so close, on the day she would be missing her loved ones!

As you think of sending Christmas cards to friends this year, remember that you can send "The Angel's Christmas Message," by Dr. John R. Rice, for just a little more money than a nice card, and bring great comfort to needy hearts. For your unsaved loved ones, it makes a tender appeal to trust the Saviour. Why not order a copy to see if it will not exactly suit your requirements for a Christian Christmas greeting this year? One copy, 30c, seven for \$2.00, or 19 for \$5.00. Pick them up at your local Christian book store or write Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.

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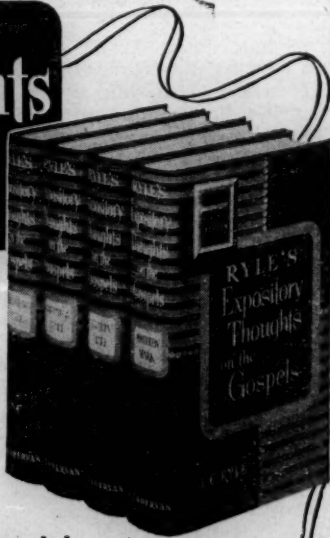
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## These Events Must Occur!

(Continued from page 7)

the frogs seemed to croak, "Judgment," "Judgment," "Judgment." The next morning he called at the parsonage. "I've come to see you about the verse of Scripture you gave me last night," he said. "I've spent a terrible night with those words burning their way into me. I can't get rid of them. Tell me what I must do to be saved. I've got to get rid of this torture."

### III. Second Coming

"Shall he appear the second time." This verse speaks of the glorious doctrine of the Second Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. One day the heavens shall be parted asunder and this same Jesus, who went up into Heaven following His resurrection, shall so come in like manner as He went into Heaven. Many times the Word of God speaks of this great fact of the return of our Saviour from Heaven. How clearly He spoke of this event which most certainly shall occur, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:3). First Thessalonians 4:13-18 tells us of that glorious day when "... the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God." And many times in the last

book of the Bible this great fact is declared; "Behold, he cometh with clouds" (Rev. 1:7). The blessed book, the Bible, which in the Old Testament so often spoke of the first coming of the Saviour, in the New Testament speaks so often of the second coming of the Son of God.

The purpose of His coming again, as it concerns man, is twofold: to take those who are His own with Him to glory forever. "And so we shall ever be with the Lord." Also, the purpose of His coming is to punish those who obey not the glorious gospel of Christ and those who know not God, with everlasting destruction from His presence. We know not the day nor the hour of His coming. Let us ever be ready. For the Christian, this is the blessed hope, when he shall be taken home to Glory, to be with his Lord forever. The Christian looks forward longingly to his Lord's return and prays, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20). The Saviour's return is that for which the Christian longs and prays. But it is just the opposite for the one who is not a Christian. For the Second Coming of Christ, an event which must occur, is for the unbeliever a time of fear and terror. Following that he will be punished and assigned to eternal darkness and death. How fearful will the unbeliever be

when the King of kings returns in power and great glory to judge the sinful nations of men!

One year after he left Corregidor, the rock fortress in Manila Bay, General Douglas MacArthur spoke in Australia on the anniversary of the surrender. "Corregidor surrendered a full year ago," the general said. "Intrinsically it is but a barren, war-worn rock, hal- lowed, as so many other places, by death and disaster. Yet it symbolizes within itself that price- less, deathless thing—the honor of a nation. Until we lift our flag from its dust, we stand unredeem- ed before mankind. Until we claim again the ghastly remnants of its last gaunt garrison, we can but stand humble supplicants before Almighty God. There lies our Holy Grail."

It will be remembered that MacArthur, upon leaving Corregidor, issued the promise: "I shall return." And in 1945 that promise was kept, for history unveils what happened on the memorably day when General MacArthur waded ashore and soon thereafter the Philippine Islands were liberated from the hands of the enemy. His return brought punishment to the enemies and deliverance to the captives.

Surely our Lord and King, whose word never fails, will keep His wonderful promise to return again to this earth! And when He comes it will mean punishment to those who are His enemies and deliverance to those whom He has

## Stopping the Stork

(Continued from page 1)

and if patriotism and Christianity make large families unfashionable, it will be time for God to try other methods.

My earnest wish is that your decisions now shall fit your view- point in old age.

### Read It Twice

I am concerned for Christians and patriots. I am not discussing abnormalities.

Certainly there are people who are morally unfit for family life, and there are multitudes who are mentally and physically unfit to bring children into the world, and such unfitness may not be due to any fault of their own. I would not urge any doctrine or theory that would add to the ratio of

redeemed! How absolutely neces- sary it is for each of us to be sure we are saved. And in case we are not sure of the simple plan of God's way of saving sinners let us ever remember: God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever be- lieveth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. "... believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..." (Acts 16:31).

Here then are three events which must occur in history and our experience. It is appoint- ed unto all men once to die— death is the thing mentioned here which is certain to come to pass. And after death comes the judg- ment—the judgment of God upon sin and the sinner. One day, pos- sibly sooner than we think, the Lord Jesus will return a second time—the second coming of Christ. If only men would realize these three events MUST come to pass; they are certain to occur! Death—judgment—second coming of Christ! You can do nothing to keep these events from occurring. Be prepared for death by receiv- ing eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ. As a Christian, then live for Christ, making your life count for time and eternity. Then, in that day when He comes again, you will hear His "Well done," good and faithful servant!

But the question of questions for you to settle, if you have not yet come to Christ, is, "Where will you spend eternity?" If you will rest you case with Him and put your whole trust in the fact that He died on the cross to save you. He will come into your heart and take away the fear of death. If this is your decision, why not sign your name and write to tell us you have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour?

### Take Jesus Christ Today

You have read Brother Donald Blackie's sermon so surely you are convinced that every person in the world must face the prospect of death, judgment, and Christ's Second Coming. The only preparation, the only answer to these problems is to take Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour. Will you do that today? Will you now turn from sin in your heart, trust Christ to save you, and set out to live for Him today? If so, the editor now begs you to first settle this matter in your heart once and forever, then sign the decision form below, copy in a letter, and mail it at once. I will send Brother Blackie the good news of your decision immediately, and I will also send you a personal letter of counsel and encouragement. De- cide, sign, copy, and mail today!

Evangelist John R. Rice  
Editor, THE SWORD OF THE LORD  
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I realize that I am a poor, un- converted sinner who needs sal- vation. I am convinced that Jesus died for my sins and is willing to forgive me and save me. There- fore, this moment I turn from my sins, I turn to Jesus Christ for mercy, I trust Him to forgive and save me now! By God's help I set out to live for Him and will claim Him openly as my Saviour.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

children who are born crippled in mind or body.

On the other hand, keep in mind that there are no parents with perfect pedigrees. Sin has damaged all the race, and God is working with the best He has. Sooner or later, in one way or another, God will win, with us I hope.

Since there are pathological angles to childbirth, it would be easy to say, "Take the doctor's advice," but somewhere there is a doctor who will tell you what you want to be told. Let this appear to be an unkind appraisal of doc- tors, I would say the same thing of preachers. This discussion is to help you decide what you want to be told. Many people find it easy to believe that they ought to do what they want to do.

I covet for the reader a happy old age with few regrets. Jesus spoke of "little ones which believe in me," and said, "In heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father." I would have many angels interested in your home.

I have not the slightest wish to pass judgment on anyone. I do wish to help confused people in their thinking. I have discussed these matters with many young people who face parental responsi- bilities.

I do not know all the answers. I do not even know all the ques- tions.

God does.

"If any man willet to do his will, he shall know..."—John 7:17 R.V.

I sometimes wonder how many who have crossed the "Great Di- vide" would like to come back and relive their lives—making quite other decisions.

Efforts have been made to save the world with education, cere- mony, social service, 'isms, 'ocra- cies, and 'archies; I have no notion that it can be saved with biology, but it is obvious that when a race dies, the world has ended for that race.

How many children are too many?

Who wants to know?

The landlord and the neighbors may think any are too many. This is written in 1944, when Nazis wanted fewer Jews and many pil- laged lands want fewer Nazis. The Chinese and Koreans prefer small Japanese families and would like to make it retroactive. Pharaoh wanted few Hebrew boys, and his daughter adopted the one who made much trouble for the family.

Too many where?

If they are to be left on my doorstep when my wife is away from home, it could be overdone. If the environment is villainously bad for children, any are too many.

How many are too many in a modest home?

Too many looking forward or looking back?

I have never known an elderly couple to wish they had fewer children unless the children were ingrates. I have known many who would have given a fortune for

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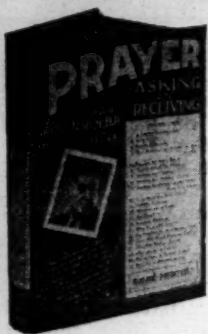
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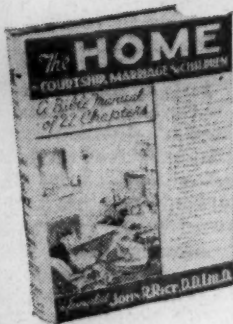
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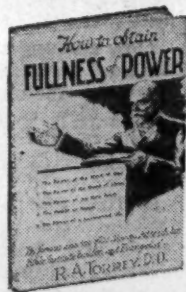


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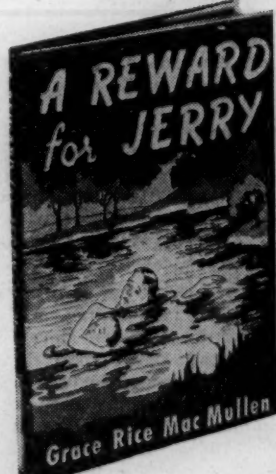
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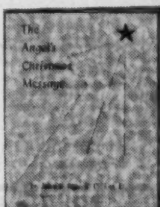
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## Stopping the Stork

(Continued from page 8)

more children after it was too late. How many are too many for a young couple?

Too many before they are born or after?

It is an inconsistency that must try the forbearance of God that people who do not want another child will go almost insane with grief if the unwanted child is born and dies three years later. God is blamed for many human ills that are the harvest of human sowing, and if death has been permitted to take out of a home a child where children have been kept out, the parents find it difficult to believe that God is good. They interfere with nature to keep life out and God is asked to interfere with nature to keep it in.

### How Much Humans Hinder Their Own Prayers

Many years ago I made a pastoral call and found a middle-aged mother and three daughters in tears. They declined to reveal the cause of their grief. Some months later the three girls had a baby sister. Two years later there was not enough money in the country to have bought that idolized child. Twenty-five years later that baby had children of her own and they never knew that Grandma and their aunts would never have allowed them to have a mother if tears could have prevented it. In more than fifty years of ministry I have prayed that God might sweeten the sorrow of bereaved parents, and sometimes I fancied that angels whispered, "We know something that you don't."

Two questions that are much alike would have different answers in millions of homes. How many children can you afford to have? How many of your children can you afford to keep?

I have heard sermons and read poems that exalted mother love as something divine. When I see that love beginning to manifest itself in the little girl playing with her dolls I am convinced. If, in later life, she slams the door of life in the face of God and His greatest material blessing, I weaken.

How many are too many for the best interests of all?

Too many in the past, in the present, or in the future?

Speaking of the past, I was the ninth child in the family (two others followed), and I am so glad they did not think nine were too many.

How many are too many for poor folk?

Too many for what level of comfort?

My father's boyhood home was built of logs. There were so many children and so little money that they did not provide foot covering for the younger children, or the geese. If there was snow on the ground, the geese stood on one foot at a time, and the children ran so fast that their feet were in the snow just long enough to make tracks. If the trip was farther than to the barn, they carried an old garment to stand on at intervals. There were sixteen of them and they reckoned it a disgrace to die under eighty years of age.

### Culture in the Backwoods

How did they go to school?

There was no school for children under teen age. The older ones attended school only long enough to learn to read, write, and "cipher" (make mathematical calculations). They reckoned themselves well-to-do and educated as compared with the Indians. They were more thankful for their good fortune, abounding health, and blazing fireplaces, than their grandchildren a hundred years later.

In my childhood the neighbors had more than we did and that made us poor folk. I went without much that other boys had, and how thankful I am now that it was so—I had no time or money for folly. The reason is obvious; according to modern standards, I was one of seven children too many. Even so, Solomon in all his glory had not such opportunities as we had. He never had potatoes, tomatoes, canned fruit, ice cream, huckleberry pie, hulled corn, sweet corn, popcorn, corn bread, or buckwheat cakes with maple syrup. Poor Solomon! He never went to a

red brick schoolhouse, made a raft on a pond, lighted a firecracker, or had a sled ride.

If children ought not to come into the world unless they can have four years in college, then Cain and Abel were the second and third mistakes in recorded history and we have nearly six thousand years of ancestry that we ought not to have.

If children ought not to come into the world unless they have as good a chance as our neighbors, then nine-tenths of the people of the world ought to die childless. It might be well to reflect that we have had four grandparents, eight great-grandparents and perhaps a million greater-grandparents, and if any one of them had died childless, we would not be here. WE OWE SOMETHING TO THE PAST. It is scarcely consistent for me to set up standards that, if followed in the past, would have left me out of the picture.

The Bible says, "Children's children are the crown of old men," and we may add, the halo of old women. It is the only coronation that amounts to much in this life, and if God lets us look back from beyond the flowers that have been sent in, we shall be more interested in the family than in the monument.

I have vivid recollections of a man who said to a group of friends, "I buried my best friend today. I buried my dog." He was an old man with white hair. No hope that the dog will bark a greeting when the old man crosses the "Great Divide."

I was called to visit another old man, and in this case death was waiting for him in the shadows. He grieved most that he must leave his lodge behind, and the saddest hour was when his lodge brothers carried him in an armchair to the lodge hall where he sobbed a good-bye to the various chairs he had occupied as a grand exalted something-or-other. The breaking of bonds is tragic when there is no hope of reunion.

I like to think of the aged mother of sons and daughters who, in her last hour, summoned them to her bedside and said, "Children, I have sung lullabies to you many times. Now will you sing a sleepy-time song for me and then kiss me goodnight?" The oldest son took her right hand, the oldest daughter her left hand, and with a circle clasped hands they sang their mother's favorite song, changing the order of the first two words:

We shall meet beyond the river

Where the surges cease to roll,

Where in all the bright forever

Sorrow ne'er shall press the soul.

How many are too many?

Why is a decision so important now?

In many things we learn by making mistakes. Other mistakes cannot be undone in time or eternity. Esau "found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears." He had exchanged a birthright for temporal comfort. We are discussing the birthright of potential life, sometimes denied for social achievements. Said the poet, "Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these, 'It might have been.'"

### Barnyard Philosophy

There is a barnyard philosophy that parades under the imposing name of eugenics that lends itself to barnyard morals. If it were forced to be consistent its villainy would be obvious. It urges that because he is not handicapped by puritanic morals, a stockman can appraise the value of domestic animals so accurately that a colt may sell for thousands of dollars before it is born.

Teachers who would put you on the level of cultured beasts do not tell you that breeder's methods adopted by humans would mean polygamy and the birth of so many that weaklings and cripples must be killed. The herd would take the place of the family and corrals would replace the home.

Human greatness depends on the mind and spirit as well as the body, and many of earth's greatest characters for good or evil come from homes of an opposite type.

Who dares to take the responsibility of deciding when and where life is to be shut out of the normal home?

It is reported that a woman missionary in a land where girl babies are looked upon as less than a favor from the gods and are often bartered in marriage in childhood, lost all patience with the men of a nation that treated cows and sacred monkeys better than the mothers of its children. She said, "I wish to God that there might be not another girl baby born in that nation for fifty years." Let us keep in mind that all fathers in the nation wanted girl babies in other people's homes, if only the gods would send boys to them. What about a nation that is freckled with Christianity, where millions of POTENTIAL mothers want all the babies born in other homes, so that they may be free to radiate culture to others? Whether it is Pharaoh's methods with Israel or Haman and Hitler's methods with the Jews, birth frustration will put skids under any nation that fosters it, if you give it time. Not even the great pseudogod, science, can nullify the multiplication table. The nation that has more deaths than births and continues that misfortune, is on the way out.

Are there superior and inferior races?

Certainly some nations make themselves superior or inferior. The most vehement advocate of race equality, if he had to come back to earth as a baby, would have very pronounced preferences as to what race was to furnish a mother and what sort of religion and ancestry she had when he arrived. How distressed he would be if the women who would make the most desirable mothers didn't want him.

### The Arithmetic Plays No Favorites

How can I doubt the prophecies of the Bible; history fulfills them.

If the Japs, with their high birth rate, had waited another hundred years before attacking a nation that thinks it cannot afford large families, the prophecies of Japan might have been fulfilled. God saw to it that they did not; let us hope that He will yet save America, yawning in false security.

We send missionaries to pagan lands, as we ought to do, and they teach wretched idol worshippers how to lower the death rate of their babies. Here at home we spend about as much money to lower the birth rate. Many people think of God as they do of a magician who can take a white rabbit out of an empty hat. The theme song of shortsighted optimists might well be, "Let me dream on if I am dreaming."

Some of the world religions forbid birth frustration; some others foster it, tolerate it, or ignore it. What is the answer if God lets this age go on another hundred years? If you do not know, you wouldn't believe me if I told you. Consider one situation. The French Roman Catholics of Canada have families that average more than twice the size of Protestant families and there is nothing about that to worry Roman Catholics. The birth rate among Mormons is greater than that of their jitter-bugging, bitterjuggling Gentile neighbors.

So what?

When and if church leaders build a new world, many groups will try to furnish the religion for it. Religious freedom is part of the plan and if some cult worships a horned toad, who is to stop it? What religions will dominate the new world? Years ago the childless Shakers showed religions how not to do it. Are family, nation, faith, and ideals worth dying for? Then they ought to be worth living for.

Years ago I was much impressed by the story of a Christian Indian. He was traveling on a Missouri River steamer with his Christian mother and a young squaw named Mary, and a missionary. While

they were looking out upon the river, the steamer struck a snag, rocked violently, and the mother and Mary were thrown into the river. The Indian dived into the swirling waters and managed to save Mary, but before help could reach her, the mother had disappeared. The missionary tried to comfort the grief-stricken Indian with words of commendation. He said, "You knew that your mother was saved. You knew that Mary, not yet converted, would be lost. Like your Lord, you went after the one that was lost."

The Indian replied, "Go away, white man. You do not understand. My tribe is dying. My mother old woman soon die. No can help my tribe. My tribe need Mary. Mary help save my tribe."

The murderer waiting execution has a chaplain eager to add a Christian convert to the invisible church. The Lord gave a prayer pattern to His disciples that contained the plea, "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." The distressing need for good people is on this earth. For all we know to the contrary, the time to do something for this world is while we are here.

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." They are not coming from Heaven to colonize the earth. Perhaps God has nominated you to be one of their ancestors.

How many must there be if this nation, if any nation, is to continue?

If every woman became the mother of two children—no more, no less—the nation would dwindle

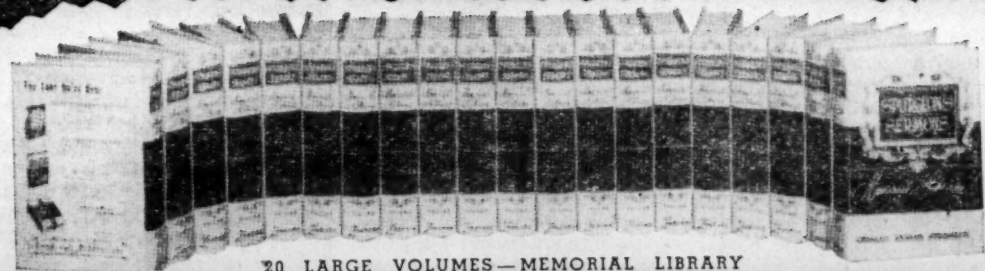
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## Stopping the Stork

(Continued from page 9)

to extinction because some would die before maturity. Because some women do not marry, some ought not to marry, and some who marry are childless, the average number of children, where there are children, must be more than three. If half the families average one child, the other half must average more than five. Facts are stubborn things, and patriotism that is a thin veneer may exhaust itself with flag-waving and fireworks.

Is there to be a new world?

Yes. The Bible forecasts "a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." Any new earth with less than that would be about as permanent as the Tower of Babel. Righteousness isn't something that furnishes a dull background for artistic sin.

### Stubborn Facts of Mathematics

A religious group increases when it wins more converts than it loses

deserters, or has a birth rate greater than its death rate.

As an example, if a group of one thousand have an annual increase of 1 per cent for two hundred years, they will then number more than seven thousand.

If the annual gain is 2 per cent, they will multiply to more than fifty thousand.

If the annual gain is 3 per cent, they will reach the amazing total of 368,000.

At 4 per cent, the one thousand will multiply to more than 2,500,000 in the two centuries.

Before you decide that these figures would win a prize in a liar's contest, get an interest table from your banker and convince yourself.

If they approximate the truth, you need no fortuneteller to forecast what will happen in a new world, or any world, if your kind of people have few children and a predatory kind of people have

many. If the peace-loving people in the new world do no better than the ones who are making the blueprints, the plan will backfire.

Am I a pessimist?

No. I am old-fashioned enough to believe the Bible. When a land is overfilled with iniquity, God empties it (Isa. 24:1-3), though He endures with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath (Rom. 9:22). Two examples are given in Genesis 15:16 and Matthew 23:32: "The iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full"; "Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers." The Father said to our Lord, "Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool" (Matt. 22:44 and five other places in the Bible). Keep that FOOTSTOOL in mind.

Is it possible for a religious or political group to have an annual increase of 4 per cent over a period of years?

It has happened many times with smaller groups, but never, so far as the records I have seen, has it continued for more than two centuries. Percentages sag as families and religious isms drift in habits and ideals.

My grandfather had sixteen children; there were no screens in the windows, no modern sanitation, no modern remedies; they did not even know that heat would sterilize instruments, bandages, and drinking water. I never heard of one of them getting drunk, remaining single, or seeking a divorce. The second generation could afford many hurtful things, and the third generation went in for modern conveniences and small families.

A national magazine with a circulation of four million said in 1942 that the French Roman Catholics in Canada numbered 65,000 in 1763, and multiplied to six million in 1942—many of them living south of the border.

Benevolent America showed Japan how to lower her death rate, and later, Japan showed us how they could raise ours. If the social gospel stops short of saving pagans, it will greatly add to their numbers.

### Childless Women with Mother Hearts

I have only sympathy for the woman with a mother heart who has not been blessed with children. To such I would say that if you will look for it, God has compensation, both in this and the world to come.

There are tribes and racial groups where every woman, from the time she is born till the time she is buried, belongs to some man. She may not choose a mate, or refuse one if her owner has willed it so. More than any other man in human history, Christ has set women free, but Christianity ought not to be at a disadvantage because of this freedom. Where this freedom prevails, no woman is forced into bondage with a physical or moral wreck, nor is she an outcast if her prayers for children are not answered.

I have known the woman who kept in a locked drawer a doll, that in lonely hours she took from its hiding place to ease the pain of empty arms and open the vials of her tears. I have known others to borrow from a neighbor a baby—something to love and cuddle. I have known of empty baby shoes on which, in hours when the house was too quiet, tears have splashed since thirty years ago. I have seen in old Bibles little curls of baby hair, coiled like question marks among the promises of God. I like to think that such childless women are very dear to the heart of Mary's compassionate Son.

I knew a young woman who asked of an evangelist, "What can God do for me? I want a home of my own, with a husband and little children, but there are not enough decent young men who are looking for a wife with Christian ideals." She was a young woman in radiant health, cultured, musical, a lover of children, the cherished friend of the sick and aged. Perhaps if she had put her religion away in moth balls till after marriage, it would have been a great comfort to her when she had to go to church alone.

I am sure that God can do much for her and millions more like her, but I don't know what He will do with a nation that fosters the things that make loafers, drunk-

ards, gamblers and profligates out of men who might otherwise make good fathers. In the name of personal liberty, unborn generations must suffer damage from alcohol, narcotics, vice, spendthrift habits, and guttersnipe ideals. While we are hoping our government will do better, *God send us good mothers*, both in quantity and quality. If you want a longer prayer, "God send us statesmen and lawmakers who will protect our young people as well as a hired man would a pedigreed pup." If, in our nation, voters refuse to support such a program, then it is time to read history to see what God has done when His patience has reached a limit. In reading history, it is well to keep in mind that unfulfilled prophecy is history that has not yet happened.

### Mistaken Theories

There is a theory that the children of a small family have better opportunities than the children of large families. If this is true, then we have a basis for the theory that race superiority and family superiority are the levels attained just before they reach extinction.

Very recently the newspapers have featured the story of a Michigan mother who has nine sons in the Army and thirteen other living children and not one of them is undernourished. If that family maintains that rate of increase for eight more generations, they will number twice the present population of the world. There is not a remote possibility of it happening, but the fact that there can be such a family—healthy, happy, and well-behaved, nullifies some theories and suggests that those who plan for the future of the world may properly reckon with the birth rate of pagan and Christian, those for peace and those for plunder.

If the meek are to inherit the earth (and they shall), they must do it by conquest, a tide of evangelism, a higher birth rate, or God must dispossess most of the tenants. Do you know any other method?

This would be a good time for some folk to revise their theories.

We have had multitudes who have dedicated their lives to filling Heaven with people who are happy in doing the will of God; why not other multitudes eager to fill this world with the same kind of people. In the "Lord's Prayer" we say, "In earth, as it is in heaven."

### The Wisdom of God

With perhaps one exception, God planned that humans would be least prolific of any creatures on earth. What a world it would have been had it been otherwise! Even as it is there are too many who love sin; too few who love righteousness. What is God to do if the people called by His name fail Him? They have done so many times in history and the world has lapsed into savagery.

### The First Command

God's first command was, "Multiply and replenish the earth." It is clear that in centuries that followed, God gave His blessing to those who remained unmated, that they might devote their lives to making this a better world for the children of others. Whether we like it or not, the grim fact remains that those who accept the responsibilities of marriage must average enough children to make up for those who do not, or the nation is on the way out. Matthew 19:6 says, "What therefore God hath joined together..."

Does that apply to all weddings, or is God just a hopeful spectator at some weddings? To claim God as a mediator and forthwith treat Him as a meddler is dangerous inconsistency.

In the first chapter of Luke there is the story of an angel who said, "I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God." He came to discuss the birth of a child who was then only potential. In the same chapter is the story of a visit to Mary and a discussion of another child that was then only potential. This is significant because so many folk think God is no more concerned with potential life than He is with which side of your bread is buttered. Our Lord said of some children, "Their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven"

(Matt. 18:10). Evidently angels are interested quite some time before they are born.

### "Planned Families"

When a farmer chloroforms all but two of a litter of kittens, he thinks he is un-planning the old cat's family, but it eases the conscience somewhat if a constructive word can be used for a destructive process. The ancient Romans "planned" their families by disposing of children they did not want. Their method had one advantage—they looked them over before discarding any. Since the size of the family concerns God, angels, church, nation, and the far reaches of eternity, Heaven's blessings will be on the God-planned family. God made the plans when He made humanity and if they are to be modified for the individual, such modification should be made in harmony with the ordinances of God. Gabriel stood "in the presence of God" before he planned; some others do their planning first and explain to God when the books are opened. Of all creatures, humans are the only ones who tamper with potential life and say by their actions, "We do our own choosing; God can take what we decide on and like it." He might not like it.

Could it be that social, financial, or other ambitions dictate the plan?

Consider that the Board of Strategy can only plan to shut life out. The child who arrives may be any one of a thousand possibilities that God has put beyond the power of human choice except as prayer may win the favor of God. That children of the same mother may be amazingly different must be obvious to observant readers. A devout couple will not hinder their own prayers by offending God.

Better read that again.

Since early history some people have frustrated the chief purpose God had in the institution of marriage by the misuse of God's blessings. God's reaction to behavior that made mockery of His plans is well known to Bible students. Now, in an age when God has multiplied our temporal blessings, men have devised means whereby unchastity need not endanger one's surface respectability. It is difficult to believe that God desires such inventions in the the Christian home.

A young minister asks, "Would you advise a young couple riding down a steep hill to take off the brakes and trust God to prevent a wreck."

The question seems to assume that the car does not have built-in brakes but must have the wheels locked like a farm wagon with a load of hay. Perhaps the "wreck" is in the mind and not at the bottom of the hill. My mother used to tell of a backwoodsman who thought he saw a bear in a tree when it was only a tiny creature on his eyebrow. If the ride does not damage the car and they take on a little passenger that they would not part with for a fortune, nothing has been wrecked but a man-made program. Of course, if it is an expensive car and the couple want a later model as soon as this one is paid for, that puts another face on the parable. If it is a question of a new car or a new baby, take the baby and in two years you will not wish to trade for the car.

The fact is that there are proportionately very few families too large for their own good, unless the home was a matrimonial disaster before any children arrived. In the country school I attended as a boy there were twenty-four families in the district and never more than twenty-seven children in school. No family had more than three children in school. I have had some pastorates among the so-called "hillbillies" and I never knew one family where there were too many children, though I did know some fathers that were unworthy of their children. The families had few of our modern conveniences, but I could earnestly wish that the people of our cities behaved as well as they did.

### The Abundant Life

I came into life soon after hoop-skirts went to the attic. They served a purpose in their day. At no considerable expense they enabled ambitious people with low

(Continued on page 11)

## Dr. Bob Jones Says:

A few days ago we had a letter from one of our friends wanting to know why we did not change a certain administrative policy of Bob Jones University. Now, this friend is a good Christian and is greatly interested in the work of the institution. We wrote this friend that if we did what he suggested, we would have to compromise our convictions about how to run a school. You see, we didn't go into educational business because we wanted a job. We founded a school because we believed God called us to do it, and we believe He had a certain individualistic purpose for the school. We have tried from the day we started up until now to ask just one question about anything that comes up: What is the right thing? We do not sit in judgment on what other Christian schools do. We simply are trying to do what God called us to do when we founded this institution. The unparalleled growth and prosperity of Bob Jones University would indicate that the school must have been carried on in a successful way. We are training more ministerial students and possibly more missionary students than any other liberal arts Christian institution in the world. We have trained a large percentage of the evangelists in this country. Missionaries are going from Bob Jones University to the ends of the earth. The year before last Bob Jones University had the National Banner Chapter of the Future Teachers of America. Last year we had the largest Chapter. During the school year we enrolled 501 in this Chapter. During the first three weeks of this school year, we enrolled 567 in the Future Teachers of America Chapter. Now, why should Bob Jones University change its administrative policies when it is being so wonderfully blessed of God. We are in the midst of the greatest year we have ever had. We have never had such a spirit on the campus. We have always insisted that no Christian organization can be destroyed by any attack from outside the organization. Destruction always comes when disloyalty is tolerated on the inside of a Christian setup. At Bob Jones University we are not afraid of enemies outside, but we are always afraid of enemies inside. It takes courage to clean house, but an institution that has enough courage to open a back door and get rid of the folks that are not right has enough Christian vitality to bring sinners in through the front door and get them converted and bring saints in through the front door to get a blessing. It never has been easy to run a Christian institution. The easy thing to do is to go along with the age, but the age has always drifted away from God. If Enoch had kept up with his

age, he would have gone to hell. If Noah had kept up with his age, he would have been drowned in the flood. There are certain definite trends in modern education that are controlled by Satan; and these trends, if followed by a Christian school, will lead to destruction. God has been too good to Bob Jones University and He has blessed and prospered the institution in too great a way for us to go back on Him. We, however, are not running Bob Jones University in a certain way because it brings prosperity. We are running it a certain way because we believe it is the way God wants us to run it. We are not going to surrender; and when I say that, I represent the feeling of the Board of Trustees, and especially the Executive Committee, which is composed of seven Christian men, and I represent my son, the President of the University, and his faithful associates. Now, we want you Christian people to help us, and you can do it in two ways:

First: We want you to pray for Bob Jones University every day. Pray that God may keep on giving the executives of this institution courage to stand. Pray earnestly. We do not want any "now I lay me down to sleep" prayers. We want some real praying.

Second: We want you folks to invest some of the money God has given you in the work of Bob Jones University. We have been raising money for two or three years for the Student Loan Endowment and Missionary Fund. It was not easy for us to decide to set aside half of the money that comes in for this Fund for missions. A school has a hard enough time taking care of its own operating overhead, but we felt that the Lord wanted us to do something for missions. Now, you can not only help us but encourage us by sending a contribution to the Student Loan Endowment and Missionary Fund. We will put half of the money you send for this Fund into the spread of the Gospel to the ends of the earth, and we will use the other half of it to train students who are not able to pay all of their expenses in school so they can get training to go out into different parts of the world to give the Gospel message. It may be the Lord will lead some of you to help us with our building program. We need additional buildings here. Our students are crowded three to five in a room. We do not want to grow any faster than God wants us to grow, but we do want to go along with God. Whatever the Lord leads you to do, do it. Help us all you can. Thank you and God bless you.

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# Stopping the Stork

(Continued from page 10)

incomes to keep up with society folk. When one could keep in style a whole year with ten extra yards of calico, the inconvenience of flattening one's circumference to get through a door was worth the effort. What a blessing it might be for the world if college graduates would show the world that they can do as well with five children as a log cabin family in the mountains.

Most people like to keep up with their neighbors, and that is a wholesome ambition if social altitude is measured not so much by what civilization has done for a family as by what the family is doing for civilization.

Catherine Booth lived simply but she gave seven sons and daughters who modified the religious thinking of the world, and 35,000 people filed past her casket—many of them moved to tears with grateful memories.

## New Worlds for Shortsighted Dreamers

Oh, what a world it will be when every couple has a college education, lives in an air-conditioned home fully electrified, drives a car or airplane, has a summer cottage, flower garden, pedigreed cats and dogs, and after they are fifty years old, they order a family of curly-haired children from a catalog! This last convenience is not in the published program—evidently an oversight. All the various schemes promise a world without war and if they keep the birth rate lower than the death rate, in a few centuries there will be no one to do any fighting except homeless cats and dogs among the tombstones. With the birth rate no higher than the present average among conspicuous patrons of culture, there will be few who need killing and no one near enough to do it. New-world dreamers ought to have an arithmetic book handy for wakeful moments.

## Suicidal Culture

Grandma had a spinning wheel. She made garments for the family, made her own soap, did her own washing, made her own bread, churned her own butter, and made her own tallow candles. Even so,

she was not too busy to raise a sturdy family. Modern inventions have taken the drudgery out of the lives of American women and medical science has found specifics for many ills. Must we pay for these blessings with a fade-out of the heroic families who made this a great nation?

This is one of the many ways we do it: Monty and Molly hold hands, but marriage must be delayed until they have finished college. Then with a third of their life gone, they marry, but they decide there must be no children until their house and garage is furnished like the homes of their friends. Finally the appearance of the first-born is attended with the anxiety that may be expected if the first-born appears when half of the mother's span of life is in the past. It is a marvelous child, but he interferes greatly with his mother's social activities. In a few years Junior writes to Santa Claus to ask for a baby-sister and Mama adds a postscript that she needs a new car. In due time Santa Claus brings Junior a pedigreed pup and Mama gets a shining automobile. Some years later in a junk yard there is a discarded automobile—a pathetic memorial of a potential child who never arrived. Junior came of a long line of heroic ancestors and it will be tragic if the families of the pioneers are to be civilized into oblivion. Instead of automobiles, the reader may substitute any convenience or comfort that is more desired than children.

Something must be wrong when man's blessings work against the perpetuation of the people who are reckoned the most fortunate. Psalms 127:3 says: "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord." Is it any wonder that many prayers go nowhere and bring nothing back?

## Divorces

Childless homes are more likely than others to be broken homes. When a couple is bound together by a romance, a beautifully furnished house and mutual friends, it is easy to magnify each the other's faults. He may be bored with the monotony of the same make-up, and she resents it when he is charmed by the smiles of another. He finds that he can afford to pay alimony and she decides that he ought to. No woman of good stock is likely to be unfairly critical of the father of her children, and only a man lacking in ordinary gratitude will not try to see goodness in the mother of his children. If published statistics needed any confirmation, we need only consider the heroes and heroines of movie patrons who have made the largest collection of castoff mates.

Fiction writers always willing to write something that will be talked about, have drawn on an elastic imagination to portray shocking conditions among migrant and shack-dwelling people. Others are ready to blame these conditions on too many children. The facts are not nearly so distressing as the fiction, and what distress there is would largely disappear if drinking and gambling were suppressed.

## Sprouts from Old Stumps

Have you noticed that man is the only creature on earth who needs lawgivers to restrain him from self-destruction?

Without God, and sometimes with false gods, man gravitates to beast level or extinction. Other creatures fulfill their cycles of life as God wills; only in the case of man has God imposed laws to prevent one generation from destroying the next. Contrary to nature and the warnings of God man has, from early history, resorted to previous sex abnormalities that have swept out some races and crippled others. Early pagan religions worshipped their monstrous gods with unspeakable public indecencies. Paul said of their private infamies, "It is a shame even to speak of those things that are done of them in secret."

Like a noxious vine, vice has poisoned many nations, and though its noisome branches have been cut off many times, new sprouts are growing from the stumps.

If the devil has a favorite sin, it must be the perversion of God-given powers to pass the stream of life on the next generation. No human transgression has so kindled the wrath of God or brought so much misery into the world. Nations were cut down but sprouts came up from the stumps.

The flood was sent to cleanse the earth after matings that grieved God and corrupted the race. Sodom gave its name to human depravity and, with similar cities, suffered "the vengeance of eternal fire." Because of "the doctrine of Balaam," 24,000 Israelites died in a plague, and the Midianites who seduced them were slain by thousands and finally blotted out as a nation. Through the ages two infectious diseases due to human depravity have taken the lives of millions. A friend of mine who could speak English with difficulty, used to say of doubtful human behavior,

## "Maybe God No Like"

Ecclesiastes 7:29 says, "God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions." Some inventions provide us with more food; others insure that there will be fewer people to eat it. With inventions, more of us go where we are going faster and fewer of us come back. Misused blessings are dangerous. James 1:17 says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above."

Where do you suppose the other ones come from?

Did God overlook anything when He "made man upright"?

It is argued that God delayed such gifts as the microscope, the radio, and X-rays until the more highly cultured nations were ready for them, and for the same reason God delayed the inventions that interfere with the cycle of life. I might add that these things are (on the same theory) God's gifts to cultured people to reduce the birth rate lest there be too many of them. There are two verses of Scripture in striking contrast. In Genesis 1:28 God commanded humans to multiply and with the command He commissioned them to subdue the earth, that is, be master of it. In Leviticus 18:28 God said, "That the land spue not you out also, when we defile it, as it spued out the nations that were before you." The "abominations" that nauseated the earth centered in the misuse of sex.

Does the author mean to compare modern respectable interferences with the divinely planned cycle of life with ancient indecencies? No indeed!

I am only asking the reader to consider whether or not the motives and results are the same. The man who sells rum to a father whose children are going hungry is much more refined than a cannibal who would eat them, but the motive is the same—that is, live at the expense of others.

## Pharaoh, Haman, Hitler and Others

Pharaoh feared the Hebrews. The only method he understood was to kill the boy babies. Haman hated one Jew and to get that one he planned the death of all of them. Hitler hates all Jews and, by preventing the birth of Jews, he will save the expense of killing so many. He hates Americans and has done much to increase our death rate, but there isn't much he can do to lower our birth rate other than to kill prospective fathers. Alas and alack! He has no need to hire someone to lower our birth rate; we have a multitude of patriotic citizens who will attend to that.

## The Continuity of Life

The life that has come from Adam to us has been continuous. The apple tree of today contains a life that was in an apple tree a thousand years ago. That life, at times, may have lain dormant in a tiny seed or waiting the call of summer in a slumbering bud, but it was life. The Bible declares the continuity of life between Abraham and his descendants hundreds of years after Abraham died.

No one would argue that cooking an apple seed is killing an apple tree.

The great question that has been debated a thousand times is, WHAT PHASE OF HUMAN LIFE IS SACRED IN THE SENSE THAT ITS DESTRU-

CTION IS MURDER? The question has wrapped within it several questions.

Is wrong-doing in the ACT only, or is it also in the INTENT?

If we take it for granted that there is a difference, how much difference does it make what phase of life it is, if the destruction is intentional and in either case has the same purpose in mind?

It will be urged that one phase of life is uncertain, divided, and having no more independent life than the pollen that the honeybee carries to its hive, and that the other phase is that of individuality.

Then let us assume that God is the partner in the home and that He has investments to protect. What difference does it make to God whether we wreck the plan of God for us or the gift of God to us? I do not say that is makes no difference, but I ask, How much difference, if the intent and the results are the same?

## Does God Need a New Way Out of Difficulty?

I have received letters from young men urging that if they did their best for God, contraceptives were necessary.

The ancient pagans also believed that their gods demanded the sacrifice of child life. In the twentieth century some confused young people believe that the absence of children in the home will glorify God, if the sacrifice is made soon enough. I will outline briefly cases that are reckoned to justify birth frustration.

(a) A young couple engaged as a musical team in evangelistic work. Childbirth would break up their team.

(b) A young husband is attending a Bible school or seminary, while the young couple live in a furnished room, hard pressed for funds.

(c) A young pastor or missionary beginning service in a hard field. He has more work than two people can do and gets less money than three people need.

The problems are based on the false assumption that after God has taken care of His people for thousands of years, conditions are now so changed that He needs additional gates to keep handicaps out of preachers' homes.

Now I have no idea that Baal or Moloch could do anything for such couples without a drug store, but I think of the God of the Bible as more resourceful. God has had many difficult situations to deal with, Hebrews 11:38 says of some of the people of God, "They wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth." They were not all single folk, for they all "obtained a good report."

When Mary and Joseph camped in a stable at Bethlehem, a baby was a distressing inconvenience from the viewpoint of modern society. They were as unready for such an event as the couples referred to above, but the angels were very happy about it. If the shepherds had taken their wives to see the new baby, and if those wives had notions like many ex-

cellent women I have known; on the way home can't you imagine someone saying, "People have no right to bring children into the world if they can't provide for them"? I have heard that, oh, so many times. Of course the stable visitors did not know that God had a donation party coming from the East.

In the case of (a), I cannot believe that God ever calls anyone to help Him carry a load that He does not carry the heavy end. He who numbers the hairs of the heads of His children, can be trusted to number the children in the family. If Jesus said of sparrows, "One of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father," can a baby, who is credited in the Bible as a gift from God, get past the will of God into a Christian home and wreck God's plan? If that is too much to expect of God, at least He has not forbidden continence.

In the case of (b), thousands of students have gone to school while the wife lived with relatives or earned money to help pay school expenses, I speak from experience.

In the case of (c), the God who fed Elijah could send a neighbor with ample supplies for the family and the baby. I have seen it happen many times.

If, in any case mentioned, a baby were born and a worthy family offered to adopt it, and urged that it was a hindrance and ought to be given up for the sake of their more important work, the parents would resent such non-sense.

Some people get amazing ideas about how they can best serve God. I know a man who insisted that he was called to do city mission work. He needed a wife who was musical, so he deserted the one he had and advised her to get a divorce. She did and he found another who could sing and play the organ. He reasoned that when God calls a man, legalism, based on ancient notions of propriety, must not be allowed to interfere with God's plans. Of course if an angel with a drawn sword had forbidden his behavior, as in the case of Balaam, he might have

(Continued on page 12)

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## Stopping the Stork

(Continued from page 11)

postponed his bad behavior as Balaam did. Incidentally, it may be well to remark that the angel stopped Balaam once and the next time he needed killing, there was no donkey to advise him and he discovered his mistake after he was dead. Alas, how easy it is to believe God wants us to do what we hope He wants us to do. I knew one brilliant young preacher who excused the use of contraceptives on the plea that Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice." He argued that since he was a sheep and he had not been forbidden by the Shepherd, other sheep ought not to substitute for the Shepherd.

### The Urges in Human Life

There are many urges in life; let us discuss three of them—hunger, thirst, sex. Without food and drink the individual will die; without matings the nation will die, though individuals may live to old age. In the wisdom of God, He has given His blessing to some individuals who have remained single, and to married folk, who, through no fault of their own, have been childless.

When God made His image-man, He had the inheritance of a great family in mind (See Deut. 32:9). When sex was planted in Adam and Eve, it was God's investment for the future. When some misuse sex (Gen. 6) threatened to defeat the plan, corrupt the race and make a bankrupt of God, He washed "the face of the earth" and began again with the untainted family of Noah. Since then, families and nations have found new ways of handing in their resignations.

There are seven forms of sex depravity condemned in the Bible—sub-classification would add to the number. Gentle spirits would not be so shocked at the severities of the Old Testament if they knew how God has been shocked with loathsome behavior connected with idol worship. There is no language that aptly describes some forms of depravity without use of figures of speech. God uses such a figure of speech in Leviticus 18:25, "The land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants."

The casual reader of the Old Testament may read in the sixth chapter of Judges that Gideon threw down an altar of Baal belonging to his father and cut down the GROVE near by. That might appear to be needless spite work to destroy a beautiful park in a land where trees were so scarce. Forty times this word appears in the Authorized Version of the Old Testament as a translation that *hides an abomination* with a word that suggests beautiful trees, cherished for perhaps a century.

When Adam and Eve sinned, God made clothing for them. Satan did not like garments that contributed to modesty and he has been trying to get them off ever since—as you may have observed. Pagan worship of ancient gods left nothing for the devil to desire.

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### Too Many and Too Few

Since the dawn of history it is obvious that there have been too many bad people and too few who were relatively good. To save the race from insufferable depravity, God has many times greatly increased the death rate, and there is record that for a brief period He reduced the birth rate of "the house of Abimelech." Whatever may be the reader's ideas as to race equality, the future of the world depends much on their relative numbers. When this is written in 1944, I have no neighbors who think the world would be as well off if there were twice as many Japanese and half as many Americans.

If by some stretch of imagination one could believe that modern devices for lowering the birth rate are gifts from God, Santa Claus (figuratively speaking) *hung them on the wrong Christmas trees.*

### Three Puzzling Questions

Is a baby a fortunate or unfortunate accident in a world of chance?

Are some babies the gifts of God as Jacob and Joseph testified?

Has God delegated all right of choice to potential parents, content to do the best He can with whatever is given to Him to work with?

Like birds on a bush, some people flit from one twig to the other, depending on whether they are thinking of the children they have or the children they don't want.

God gives to His people a wide range of liberty. If they marry, when they marry, whom they marry are left to the individual with the admonition, "only in the Lord." Unless the choice will damage himself or others, man is free to live in a tent or a tenement, dig coal or raise flowers, go up stone steps or a wooden stairway to a place of worship. In matters that would wreck the home or jeopardize the future of the family, God has made basic laws that nations have disregarded and have left us nothing but relics in the dust heaps of the world.

Unless there is a trinity of father, mother, God—maternity may be only a gamble, as one who patronizes a lottery reaches for a ticket in a bowl and takes what he gets. Are children to be borne at the risk of the mother's health? That must depend on how great the risk and what is the value of the child. All life's activities are attended with risks. Every birth puts a mother in jeopardy, but there are *more women killed and damaged in automobiles than in maternity hospitals.* I take it that sometimes the risk is too great in either case.

For thousands of years the people of God have faced these problems, and in some measure death has attended every activity of life. Now, medical skill and a knowledge of antiseptics have made maternity much safer. We may well thank God for the knowledge of disease germs and how to kill them, but whom shall we thank for inventions that multiply delinquency by making it safer to sin?

If we thank God for such inventions, the devil will certainly add a fervent "Amen!" That would be disconcerting, if we heard it. Some have testified that they have been led of God to limit their families to two or three. I have no reason to question the sincerity of such testimony, but if true, I marvel that He never mentioned it till eighteen hundred years after the last book of the Bible was written. Then it puzzles me that God wants Christian families small and sends missionaries to teach pagans how to raise large families by improving sanitary conditions.

Twenty-six hundred years ago Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel had not too many children, but too few. They lived in tents with less equipment than a family in a trailer has now. *Their descendants survive and will survive.* They had neighbors who built palaces and temples and LEFT THEM FOR THE BATS.

Now I know that the best known method of answering such warnings is to get an old scrap-

book and read that in every generation there have been prophets of gloom who deplored the ebbing tides of their day. I do not need a scrapbook; I heard such prophets in my youth. If you think they guessed wrong, then drive out in the country, past the road houses and "night spots" to where there is an abandoned church and not enough children in the community to keep a Sunday School going. On the way back stop at the courthouse and pay an installment on your taxes and buy a war bond if you have any money left. If you still think that the puritanical preachers of those days were gloomy because something was wrong with their liver, read the report of J. Edgar Hoover that "crimes against decency" among girls of school age have increased fifty-six per cent in a few months. He might have said that they have multiplied by ten since the abandoned church was filled with worshippers. Perhaps it would have been well if people had heeded the unpopular preachers instead of the assurances of the scrapbook.

It seems that in Bible times there was scarcely a generation that did not have one or more disagreeable preachers who saw trouble in the direction the nation was going. Isaiah says that the popular demand was, "Speak unto us smooth things," and when the prophets persisted in being disagreeable, *they killed them.* The Lord Jesus reminded His critics that their fathers had killed the prophets and then they killed Him. No prophet was killed because he was a popular preacher. The rubble heaps of the world are monuments of forgotten nations that probably had soothsayers who told them what they wanted to hear.

One thing I like about Belshazzar; after hearing the most caustic indictment that, in my judgment, was ever leveled at a king by a prophet, *he promoted the prophet.* I would contribute to a tombstone for him if that amazing fact were to be chiseled on it.

### Optimistic Prophecy

"For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9). Just now it is as full of theories of God as the clouds that drift over the sea. It will be a glorious age for someone's investment in children when the prayer, "Thy kingdom come," is answered. Let us hope that in that glad era you may look on from wherever you are as a *happy stockholder.* If you may not have children of your very own, invest in the neglected children of the world.

In the life to come, are we to lose all interest in our children, spiritual and literal? Some who read Hebrews 12:1 believe that from the galleries of Glory some who have departed to be with the Lord will look down on us as eagerly as the alumni of a great school watch the students of the school in an athletic contest. When Herod killed the children of Bethlehem, the mourners included Rachel (Matt. 2:16-18). Others see in these statements only poetical figures of speech. Truth runs parallel to Bible figures of speech and parables are the wrappings of great truths. I can easily believe that the glory world is equipped as well as we are with radio and television or better.

### A Story

One hundred ten years ago there was born in a log cabin in the backwoods of Pennsylvania a baby girl who was to be a workslave or heroine, depending on the viewpoint of the reader. Those were the days of the tallow candle, ox-cart, and muzzle-loading rifle. It required a day's travel to go to and from the store. There was no church and school was only a neighborhood arrangement to teach reading, writing, and simple mathematical calculations. Sickness was unusual and doctors were far away. In some of the cabins there was a homemade doll, and usually there was a live baby for the older children to care for. For entertainment there were tales of Indians, bears, panthers, wolves and wildcats. According to modern standards this girl was foolish or ill advised, for, after a childhood of hardship, she married a young woodsman and they moved into a cabin with bare floor, bare walls, and bare windows. All the furn-

ishings they had, other than a bed, they could have carried in their arms. The first dinner in their new home was simple—the only thing hot was a corn pone baked on a board by an open fire. Not knowing any better, they thought they were well-to-do and welcomed into the home two children to share their good fortune. Then came the Civil War and the young father carried a musket for thirteen dollars a month. He lost his life in the Battle of the Wilderness, and the grief-stricken wife was saved from dire poverty by the pension she received. That, added to her own earnings, provided ample support.


### Chapter Two of the Story

There is an old saying, "Once a fool, always a fool." Of course, if she were a heroine, she might continue heroic. At any rate, she married a poor farmer with six children and began washing, sewing, cooking for the family of ten. Continuing in her folly or heroism, *three more children were born.* When she remarried the pension stopped and poverty was inevitable. If she could have had fewer children, balanced rations, and occasional vacations, she might have lived to be ninety years old, but the deadly monotony of work and self-denial cut short her life soon after she was eighty-eight years old.

Her last days were spent with her daughter in the Northwest, on a farm ten miles from a railroad. Counting the grandchildren, there were ten in the family. The neigh-

bors thought of her as an old woman from another age, about ready to be forgotten with her stories of Indians, bears, and wolves. Throughout her later years this woman hoped that the children would do something in life to prove that her toil and sacrifice had not been in vain. Four of the older children had become schoolteachers, but few people knew about that. As she neared the end of life, she made one request concerning her funeral: Would they send for the only preacher who knew her family? As a child, he had played with her children. Indeed, she was there when he came into the world; he could tell the story of her past. Yes, he would come, though he was a busy pastor hundreds of miles away. When the day of the funeral arrived, the trains were delayed and they kept the funeral waiting for four hours. I ought to know I was the preacher. That day in a country church I told the story of a woman who had sacrificed much to give life and opportunity to others. If she had no other way of knowing, I hope the angels told her that I did my best. And then, while the birds were busy with their nestlings in the trees overhead, I pronounced the words of the committal service, "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," over all that remained on earth of my mother.

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